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SUPERINTENDENTS OF IDIOT-SCHOOLS.

BY DR. ISAAC N. KERLIN.

The Association of Medical Officers of American Institutions for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded persons met at Syracuse, New York, on the 29th of September, and continued in session for three days. The Institutions at Barre and South Boston, Massachusetts; Lakeville, Connecticut; Syracuse, New York; Elwyn, Pennsylvania; Faribault, Minnesota; Glenwood, Iowa; and Frankford, Kentucky, were represented. There were no representatives from the institutions of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, and California.

The venerable Bishop of the Central Diocese of New York, Rt. Rev. F. D. Huntington, permanent chairman of the board of trustees of the New York Asylum for Idiots, delivered an eloquent address of welcome, the closing words of which were:

> We desire for you comfort and entertainment and a happy and fruitful session of your association, as well as increasing power and success at your several regular posts of duty. If you seek public patronage and endowment, may you find legislatures as liberal as that of the State of New York, unvexed and unhindered by partisanship, timidity, or political prejudice. If you are inspected by boards of charities, may they be large-minded, reasonable, and just! In these, as in all your doings and undertakings, in the language of the old version of the Psalm, "We wish you good luck in the name of the Lord!"

Interesting letters descriptive of the origin of this work in England, and its progress in Scotland, from Dr. M. Milard, Colchester, England, and Dr. W. W. Ireland, formerly of Larbert, Scotland, were read.

A recent act of Parliament, termed "an act for giving facilities for the care, education, and training of idiots and imbeciles," was received from Dr. Shuttleworth, of the Royal Albert Asylum, England. This releases the English institutions for imbeciles from the objectionable, if not oppressive, requirements of the lunacy law, and was commented upon favorably by the members of the Association.

The proceedings of the meeting were interesting, as may be inferred from the titles of the papers read.

"Pathological Researches of the Last Year," by Dr. Wilmarth, of Elwyn, illustrated by photographs of the surfaces of several brains. Dr. Wilmarth referred to the correspondence between the appearance of these brains and those described by Benedikt, in his interesting work on the brains of criminals. The confluence of fissures and irregularities of convolutions, being alike peculiar, indicates a low type of development in both classes: the scanty description of the mental and moral characteristics of Benedikt's cases prevents other comparisons.

Dr. J. C. Carson, of New York, and Dr. I. N. Kerlin, of Pennsylvania, reported four typical cases of mental imbecility; the latter taking the ground that disorder of the moral part in such cases is inbred and radical. "As there are persons in whom we discover a partial or entire absence of color perception, or of the musical perception, and others who are partially or entirely destitute of the power of numbers, of distance, of direction, of logic, or of any other special faculty, *nor can the absence be supplied by education*, so we have individuals who, from some inherent fault in, or some radical defect of, the receptive centres, are destitute in part and sometimes wholly of the so-called moral sense, and no environment and *no education will supply the deficiency*."

Dr. Geo. H. Knight, of Connecticut, read a paper on "State Provision for Epileptics," claiming that a large proportion of cases of epilepsy (say twenty per cent.) are curable by timely treatment; one element of which must be removal from home; and further taking the ground that the marriage of epileptics should be interdicted by law, because of the transmitted diseases resulting from such marriages.

Dr. Powell, of Iowa, the President of the Association, in his Annual Address, said, in regard to a large class of the feeble-minded:

> The adult portion of our great family of defectives continue to present their interests for adjustment. A large per centum fail to possess adequate mental or moral conviction to cope successfully with the realities of life, and are unfortunate in being without the guardianship of kindred ties to direct them. The possibilities connected with such a life are likely to be freighted with crime and degradation, and more especially is this applicable to the unguarded idiotic female. Happily the solution of this question is persistently dawning upon the public. New York has taken the advance step in providing special accommodations for this division. The results have verified the wisdom of the act. The strongest letters of appeal for admission to the Iowa Institution come from parents or guardians who have advanced to that period of life when thoughts of the future welfare of their progeny crowd heavily upon them. The mother, bound down by an imbecile child, is one of the most pitiable objects in the world, for her burdens of helplessness, grief, and care must increase rather than diminish with passing years; and to many an aged parent has come and will come the thought, who will care for and guard my afflicted child in the future? The very thought of a child of this nature being without suitable protection is painful not only to a parent, but to all good citizens. It is not only justice to the individual, but to the commonwealth, that persons thus deprived should have the strong arm of the State to shield and protect them. It is not enough that the State provide temporarily for this division of our unfortunates; it must be a life-school for them, thereby preventing the transmission of infirmities to a still more degraded progeny. Bearing upon this subject, I quote from the report of the visiting committee of the Twentieth Iowa General Assembly: "Your committee are unanimous in the opinion that this institution should be made perpetual, and so enlarged at the earliest possible date as to accommodate all this unfortunate class. This should be done, not so much upon the theory of charity, as on the ground of public safety. To turn these out upon the world with such fearful possibilities before them, especially that of reproducing their kind, is, in the opinion of the undersigned, not only cruel, but a high crime against the spirit of our laws, both human and divine."

An interesting paper on "The Relationship of Marriages of Consanguinity to Mental Unsoundness," presented by G. E. Shuttleworth, B.A., M.D., Medical Superintendent of the Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster, England, was read by the secretary. After setting out the statistics, mostly foreign, Dr. Shuttleworth concludes:

> On the whole, in these latter ages of the world's history, when so few families can show a lineage physiologically faultless, a caveat may almost always be entered against the marriage of cousins: at the same time, if a close scrutiny does not reveal any heritable weakness, neurotic or otherwise, I do not know that the facts and figures I have cited will invariably justify us in "forbidding the banns."

Other papers of interest were presented by Dr. George Brown and Mrs. C. W. Brown, of Barre, enunciating the principles on which the training of feeble-minded children should be based.

Reports were made of the progress of the work in thirteen States of the Union. Dr. Rogers, of Minnesota, presented a variety of specimens of *repoussé* work done by the children of his institution.

The secretary read a memoir of the late James B. Richards, a pioneer in the work, and the author of the interesting essay, "How to train a Feeble-Minded Child," which appeared in the INTERNATIONAL RECORD.

The subject of "Alcoholism as a Factor in the Production of Congenital Idiocy" was presented by Dr. Stewart, of Kentucky, and a resolution confirming the action of a similar organization in Germany was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, The members of this Association are convinced, from their observation and the records of their institutions, that a large percentage of idiocy and feeble-mindedness is due to the transmitted effects of alcohol; therefore,

Resolved, That it is their conviction that, together with the educational training of the young in the avoidance of the evil of intemperance, there should be some legal repression set upon the indiscriminate sale of intoxicating beverages.

THE PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

The Twelfth Annual Convention of the Pennsylvania Association of Directors of the Poor met in Scranton, on the 13th of October. From the Scranton papers we judge it to have been a large and interesting meeting. We are promised an account of it from the pen of Mr. R. D. McGonnigle, of Pittsburgh, who is said to have been the father of the movement, which has borne excellent fruits.

THE NATIONAL PRISON ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the National Prison Association will be held at Atlanta, Georgia, November 6–12.

The executive committee will meet with the local committee of arrangements at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon. That evening there will be addresses of welcome and responses, one of which will be by ex-President Hayes, who is the president of the association.

On Sunday the annual sermon before the association will be preached in the morning, and at night there will be a public meeting to consider the relations of "Christianity and the Criminals." A eulogy will be pronounced on the Hon. Horatio Seymour, for many years president of the association, by the Hon. Wm. Dorsheimer, of New York.

The subjects assigned for the several days through which this meeting will last are as follows:

Monday: Prison construction; prison diet; moral instruction in prisons.

Tuesday: At the morning session the subject of moral instruction will be further considered. In the afternoon reports will be presented by the standing committees on United States prisons, statistics of crime, aid to prisoners' families, and inter-State extradition. At night Mr. Charlton T. Lewis will read a paper on "The Paying Prison"; Dr. D. P. Lewis, of Chattanooga, will read on "The Prison System of the Southern States"; and Mr. H. W. Mabie, editor of the *Christian Union*, on "The Press and Crime."

Wednesday will be "Reformatory Day." Col. Gardiner Tufts, superintendent of the Massachusetts Reformatory, will preside. No special programme has been prepared, but at night Prof. Wayland, Dean of Yale College Law School, will deliver an address on "The Incorrigible—Who is He? and What shall be done with Him?" Warden McClaughry, of Joliet, will speak on "Prison Labor," and Brother Justin, director of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, will read a paper on "Kindness as a Factor in Reformation."

Thursday will be given up to the discussion of the prison-labor question. In the evening there will be addresses by Mr. Charles Dudley Warner (subject not announced); the Hon. W. H. Howland, of Canada, on "The Discharged Prisoner"; and Mr. Round, on "The Organization of Prison Associations in States."

Friday: No subject assigned for the morning session, but in the afternoon Mrs. J. K. Barney, of Rhode Island, will speak on "Prisons and Police Matrons," and one of the directors of the Massachusetts Woman's Prison is to discuss "Reformatory Prisons for Women." At night Mr. Wines is announced to speak on some topic not stated, but, from a somewhat intimate acquaintance with that gentleman, we are in a position to say, by authority, that he will not be there at that time, if at all. His paper, which will be submitted in a printed form, and probably not read, will be on "The Paroling of Prisoners; or, Conditional Liberation." The closing addresses will be by President Hayes and the chairman of the local committee.

The head-quarters of the executive committee will be at the Kimball House. Persons who intend to be present and desire to avail themselves of reduced rates on the railroads, are requested to communicate with the secretary of the association, Mr. W. M. F. Round, 65 Bible House, New York City.

The corner-stone of the new Intermediate Penitentiary at Mansfield, Ohio, is to be laid on Thursday, the 4th of November, with great pomp. The Governor of the State will be present and, in conjunction with the Grand Master, will conduct the Masonic ceremonies usual upon such occasions. All of the State officers and members of the legislature have been invited, and all of the leading prison experts in the United States. The exercises upon the grounds will be presided over by Senator John Sherman, as Officer of the Day. Addresses are to be delivered by Governor Foraker, ex-Governor Hoadley, and Mr. Z. R. Brockway of Elmira, N. Y. In the evening, a meeting will be held in the Congregational Church, under the presidence of the Hon. Rutherford B. Hayes, at which short speeches will be made by a number of invited guests. All of the railroads which run into Mansfield will have special excursion trains, and, as there is to be a grand parade, no doubt a large crowd will be there. Delegates to the National Prison Association at Atlanta are urged to go by the way of Mansfield and assist at an event which is declared, in the printed invitations, to "mark a new era in the methods of dealing with the criminal classes in Ohio." The train which leaves Mansfield Thursday evening at 9:30 o'clock will arrive at Atlanta at 4:30 on Saturday morning.

CLASSIFICATION OF MENTAL DISEASES.

A meeting of the special committees appointed by various learned societies to agree upon a uniform basis for statistics of insanity was held at Saratoga, New York, on the 8th of September. Dr. Pliny Earle presided. Dr. Henry P. Stearns was elected vice-chairman, and Dr. Walter Channing secretary. Mr. Clark Bell delivered an address explaining the object of the meeting. After some discussion, the following analysis and nomenclature were unanimously adopted. Mr. Bell (who is the American member of the International Committee on Classification of Mental Diseases) has reported the action taken to the secretary of the Society of Mental Medicine of Belgium.

1. Mania. *a* Acute; *b* chronic; *c* recurrent; *d* puerperal.
2. Melancholia. *a* Acute; *b* chronic; *c* recurrent; *d* puerperal.
3. Primary delusional insanity (monomania).
4. Dementia. *a* Primary; *b* secondary; *c* senile; *d* organic (tumors, hemorrhages, etc.).
5. General paralysis of the insane.
6. Epilepsy.
7. Toxic insanity (alcoholism, morphine, etc.).
8. Congenital mental deficiency. *a* Idiocy; *b* imbecility; *c* cretinism.

We have one remark to make on this classification, namely, that the implied definition of idiocy is inaccurate, or at least obscure and ambiguous. Idiocy is not "congenital mental deficiency"; it is *arrested development*, and may occur at any time prior to puberty.

It is true that the Swiss classification makes idiocy a "congenital psychosis," and in the Italian scheme it is

called congenital phrenasthenia or cerebrasthenia ; but this is equally an error on the part of the alienists of those countries, which has been followed by the Americans. The English scheme puts it as it should be, by implication at least, for it hints that it may be either congenital or acquired.

We remember the surprise with which we read the evidence of some of the medical experts in the Guiteau trial. Dr. Fordyce Barker drew a distinction between insanity and idiocy in these words : "Malformation of the brain produces idiocy ; insanity is an acquired disease. If they are born so, it is idiocy or imbecility." And Dr. Hamilton testified : "Idiocy never occurs after birth ; the child is born an idiot, with parts of the brain gone and wanting."

Listen, on the other hand, to the words of Dr. Edward Seguin :

Accidental idiocy, after birth, is caused by innutritious diet, or want of insolation and other hygienic requisites ; by hydrocephalus, measles, whooping-cough, intermittent fever, etc.

Griesinger says :

By the term idiocy we are to understand those conditions in which a state of mental weakness has existed from birth or from early infancy, and in which the psychical development has been thereby impeded or prevented. * * * Far more frequently the diseases which lead to idiocy do not commence till after birth.

In the late United States Census the returns showed, out of 48,928 idiots reported, 29,654 cases in which the idiocy was said to be congenital. What were the rest, according to the definition given at Saratoga? It is possible that the distinction between "idiocy" and "imbecility" is meant to cover this point ; but if so, it does it in a very unsatisfactory manner, since these two words are often used to express only a distinction in the degree of imbecility resulting from idiocy ; and imbecility is properly a general expression for mental inactivity, applicable to the imbecility of dementia in a chronic maniac or melancholiac, as well as to that of arrested development.

The point remains : "Is idiocy truly a "mental disease?" We presume that it is, in the loose sense in which the phrase is employed in this connection. But the Austrian scheme does not include it, unless it is under the word "primary imbecility," which is possible, since a distinction is made in it between primary imbecility and primary insanity ; but, on the other hand, primary imbecility may be a synonym for primary dementia and not for idiocy. We are impelled to quote the illustration given by Dr. Stearns, in reply to one of Mr. Scoville's questions to him in the trial of Guiteau :

Some authors classify imbecility and idiocy as forms of insanity. I myself do not consider them forms of insanity in the same sense as other forms, for this reason, that while a brain may be defective in its organization, yet there may exist in it no actual diseased condition. In the same way the hand might be defective. A person might be born with three fingers, instead of four ; that would be a defective hand, and yet there might be no manifestation of a diseased or pathological condition in it. I do not call the brain of an imbecile or an idiot, in the technical sense of the term, a diseased brain.

This concludes what we wish to say on the subject, for the present, unless some of our readers may desire a hearing as to this point. But before closing our article, we will digress from the matter under consideration, so far as to call attention to the testimony of Dr. John B. Gray, in the same trial, touching a question which we have heard very earnestly argued by a superintendent of a hospital for the insane and a superintendent of a school for idiots—can an idiot be both an idiot and insane? Can insanity supervene upon idiocy? Said Dr. Gray :

Idiocy is not a condition of disease of the brain, but a normal state. I have received idiots from the idiot asylum laboring under insanity—that is, an idiot actually becoming insane, having a diseased brain, and suffering from an attack of acute raving mania.

This quotation also seems to us to have a decided bearing upon the question of classification. We believe that the position taken by Dr. Gray is thoroughly sound and in accordance with the experience and observation of all who have studied idiocy apart from insanity, which perhaps most superintendents of institutions for the insane have not done.

CRIME AND MISFORTUNE IN THE CENSUS.

It is a pleasure to be able to announce that at last the tables of figures relating to the defective, dependent, and delinquent classes, collected in the Tenth United States Census and prepared for publication under the direction of Mr. Fred. H. Wines, are in the hands of the public printer. They have been ready for the press for two years past ; but, on account of the smallness of the clerical force constituting what remained of the census office, and the great number of volumes included in the census report, they were, so to speak, "laid upon the table" or "indefinitely postponed," until the Senate, on motion of Mr. Cullom, of Illinois, called for them and ordered them printed as a Senate document. They will be given to the public, we presume, early in 1887. Probably many who wish this volume will be unable to obtain a copy of it, unless advantage is taken of a law which permits any person to order extra copies of any public document, while going through the press. Such volumes are furnished at actual cost of press-work, paper, and binding, with a small percentage added to cover contingencies and pay for the extra trouble given by such orders to the government. The editor of the RECORD will be happy to act in behalf of any who may desire to avail themselves of this statutory provision.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Our thanks are due :

To Professor Luigi Lucchini, of the University of Bologna, for a copy of his book entitled "I Semplicisti del Diritto Penale," which we shall make the subject of an article in a future number of the RECORD.

To an unknown friend, for a copy of "Die Verbrecherwelt von Berlin." This, too, we shall notice *in extenso* as soon as our other duties will permit.

To Mr. William Inglis, the Inspector appointed to visit the Certified Reformatory and Industrial Schools of Great Britain, for a copy of his report for the year 1885. Some of the general facts contained in it are given elsewhere in our present number.

There are people who are so unreasonable as to expect suggestions that will exactly meet their own individual cases, but still they wish for general rules or general propositions to be laid down. There must be instant legislation to please them ; something visibly done. And often it is needful that something should be done, which however falls, perhaps, under the functions of other men than the original social reformers. There is always such a belief in what is mechanical, that men of ordinary minds can not assure themselves that any thing is done, unless something palpable is before them, unless they can refer to a legislative act, or unless there is a building, an institution, a newspaper, or some visible thing, which illustrates the principle. But in reality the first thing is to get people to be of the same mind as regards social evils. When once they are of this mind, the evils will soon disappear. A wise conviction is the light ; it gradually dawns upon a few minds, but a slight mist rises also with this rise of light ; as the day goes on and the light rises higher, spreads further, and is more intense, growth of all kinds takes place silently and without great demonstration of any kind. This light permeates, colors, and enlarges all it shines upon.—"Companions of my Solitude."

Her heart is sick with thinking
Of the misery of her kind ;
Her mind is almost sinking—
That once so buoyant mind.
She cries : "Those things confound me,
They settle on my brain,
The very air around me
Is universal pain.
The earth is damp with weeping,
Rarely the sun shines clear
On any but those sleeping
Upon the quiet bier.
I envy not hard hearts, but yet
I would I could sometimes forget ;
I would, though but for moments, look
With comfort into Nature's book,
Nor read that everlasting frown
Whose terror bows me wholly down."—MILNES.

THE TRAFFIC IN GIRLS.

Sensational articles under this heading sometimes appear in the newspapers, concerning which a word of caution may not be out of place. The crime thus characterized is base and cruel beyond the power of language to depict, as it deserves, its horrid enormity. It needs no proof to demonstrate, what is apparent without positive evidence, that anything which commands a price in the market must become an article of trade, always and everywhere. Contraband goods are no exception to the rule. But all who have observed the world must realize that buyers are often deceived by fraudulent representations as to the quality of the articles offered for sale. The more illicit the traffic, the more easy it becomes to practise imposition upon the customer ; and it is well known in police circles, that the migration of women who follow the wretched vocation which it would be impolite to name more plainly, is facilitated by intermediaries, who add to their profits by false statements as to the previous history of their clients, so that not infrequently the circumstance which affords a text to some penny-a-liner for a harrowing sermon, has no more substantial basis in fact than the lies of a mercenary hag, for whom a horse-whipping and an involuntary bath in a horse-pond would be far too lenient a punishment—she deserves to be hung, as worse than a murderer. The only pleasant feature of the business to contemplate is the thought of the consternation of the purchaser, when he finds himself tricked, and without redress. We mention this by way of comfort to those whose sympathies have been unduly wrought upon by manufactured stories. Where this vilest of crimes has actually been perpetrated, and an irreparable wrong done to the innocent, no amount of sympathy for the victim of such an outrage can be misplaced or excessive. But reports of individual cases of it require the most careful investigation, before they are entitled to acceptance as true.

AN IDEAL PROCESSION.

In one of our Western States, not long ago, there assembled in the capital an organization which styles itself the Liquor Dealers' State Protective Association. And it paraded in public, behind a brass band.

Now that these men had the same legal right to march in procession which any other men would have had, is beyond question. The law permits them to sell liquor, if they pay the fee demanded for a license and conform to the conditions upon which it is granted ; many very respectable citizens have no religious or conscientious scruples about taking a drink in front of a bar ; the places where liquor is sold are usually rather conspicuous than otherwise, and every possible effort is made by their proprietors to render them attractive by music, pictures, and even sometimes by statuary ; they are thoroughly advertised, and it can not be supposed that those who own them or patronize them are ashamed of the part which they bear in keeping up the traffic in ardent spirits.

But that such a parade is in good taste, is a proposition which probably the great majority of right-thinking people (whether they believe in compulsory total abstinence from all that can intoxicate, or in prohibitory legislation, or not) would agree in pronouncing untenable.

We are reminded of the story of two army contractors, who were travelling together, during the late civil war, on the cars, between New York and Philadelphia. To beguile the time, they talked of what they were furnishing to the government and of the profits which they had made. Said one of them to the other : "Well, I want the war to last only one year longer, and then I shall be willing to have it stop." In the seat just behind him sat a lady dressed in deep mourning, who had been listening to their conversation. As he uttered this heartless sentiment, she rose to her feet and exclaimed : "Sir, I lost a son at Bull Run," and with that gave him a stinging box on the right ear ; then added : "I lost another at Antietam," and with the other hand boxed him on the other ear, at which there was a general shout of laughter and applause from the spectators of her uncontrollabe indignation, and the two men who had given such just offence were obliged to leave the car and seek quarters elsewhere.

The truth is that all sensible men deplore the alliance which has been formed, in this country, between politics and whiskey ; they hate the rule of the saloons ; they are fast coming to a stern determination to put an end to it ; and whatever calls public attention to the desire of the liquor-dealers to entrench themselves more securely in political power, awakens a feeling akin to that which animated the bereft and belligerent woman whose heart for once got the better of her head.

The purpose of this Association was unmistakably avowed by it. It adopted resolutions, first, that it would seek to defeat at the polls any candidate for office, of either or any political party, whose utterances on the question of license or prohibition should be inimical to the interest of the business represented in the meeting ; and second, that, in so far as it could do so, by preventing the signing of the necessary bonds, it would drive out of the business every dealer who should refuse to identify himself with the organization.

We beg to introduce to the readers of the RECORD a gentleman for whom we have great respect, though he sometimes amuses us by his eccentricities, of whom we shall say little at this time, because he can speak for himself and will perhaps have something to say, from time to time, on a variety of subjects—our friend Mr. Oldham. He has sent us a communication, which seems to us to express so well what no doubt passed through the minds of many who witnessed the parade of which we have made mention, that we print it in full.

When the Liquor-Dealers' Association passed my office, yesterday, I heard the music and stepped to the front door, to see what it was. A gentleman of whose approach I was not conscious until he touched me on the shoulder, said to me :

"It is not complete."

"What is not complete ?" I asked.

"Why, the procession : there are the workmen, but where are the specimens of their work ? "

Sure enough, thought I to myself. This is a trade-procession. In all trades-processions that I have ever seen, there have been floats on which were artificers plying their vocation—blacksmiths hammering red-hot iron into nails or horse-shoes ; coopers pounding hoops on barrels ; printers working a hand-press and scattering cards or circulars ; and what not. So I said :

"Perhaps they are a little ashamed of their work."

Now I have a bad habit of dreaming with my eyes open, at times. It matters not where I am. If the fit takes me, I fall into a condition of revery, as one falls asleep in church, against one's will. And when I do, I am just like a man walking in his sleep. I seem to see what is before me but not to take much notice of it, while my fancy conjures up unreal shapes, and the real and the unreal blend in my thoughts, so that, unless I pull myself together, I can not tell one from the other. These fits do not last long ; but just then I passed into one of them, and I will tell you what I saw.

For the moment the brass band disappeared, and instead of the musicians I saw an escort marching in advance of the rumsellers, with a certain swaggering gait, as if to say, "We know our power, but doubt our right." For I have observed that nothing is so self-asserting as wrong which makes believe to be right. The gentlemen who made up this escort were, as a rule, rather portly and florid—indeed some of them could boast very highly-tinted noses. Many of them

wore California diamonds in their shirt-bosoms and gilded rings on their fingers ; and I noticed a good many last year's hats with a gloss so fresh upon them that I suspected that they had been ironed for the occasion. Their owners carried them jauntily, with an affectation of elegance. Though the greater part were strangers to me, I recognized some of them, and discovered that this escort was composed of the "fine workers" in politics—men who buy judges of elections, stuff ballot-boxes, and falsify election returns—the men who dictate to the rest of us whom to nominate for office, on the ground of their alleged availability as candidates, which too often means nothing more than that they are acceptable to the slums.

From the head of the procession I glanced towards the rear of it, and the street was filled from side to side by as motley a crowd as I ever laid my eyes on. These were the missing specimens of the liquor-dealers' work. I know a woman who once moved in an excellent circle of society, but who acquired the uncontrollable taste for wine, and now she exists by sweeping out a sailor's dance-house in a seaport town, for which she is allowed the privilege of draining the partly emptied glasses of the men and girls who frequent the place : she was there. I know a gentleman, a high officer in a railroad corporation, who has an annual spree, winding up with an attack of *mania a potu*, whose faithful wife is so jealous of his reputation that, when the time comes, she takes entire charge of him, denies admission to visitors, announces that he is very ill, and hides his weakness from the knowledge of every friend he has in the world except that trusted repository of family secrets—the family doctor. They were both there. How shall I tell who were there, and where they came from ? Judging by their numbers, they must have come from pretty much everywhere. There were men, women, and children, of every age and nationality and calling and social rank. One thing I noticed : they all looked older than they really were. The younger ones had an air of precocity about them, while the older ones seemed to have grown prematurely decrepit. Some were already victims of intemperance, while others were only on the way to become such. The latter wore a pleased expression of countenance, as though the sound of the music and the holiday spectacle awakened in their breasts agreeable memories or anticipations. But the others had a dejected air, and I intercepted some black and threatening looks from eyes bleared with debauchery or red with weeping, which were lost upon those in front of them. To describe the crowd would tax the genius of a Hugo. There were in it, besides many whom the world recognizes as gentlemen by habit and association, a multitude of thieves, gamblers, and pimps ; sports and pugilists—these last with brawny arms but imbecile faces ; half-grown boys, flushed and reeling ; negroes with razors, and white men who carry revolvers ; and a host of impecunious patrons of the free-lunch counter. I saw a group of Sisters of the Night, whose hilarious mirth found vent in shrieks of laughter in which there was a deep undertone of despair. Their cheeks were painted, their dress showy but tawdry, and their behavior such as to cause modest girls who witnessed it to shrink within themselves and draw closer together for mutual protection and support. But there were women there not of this class. Sad-eyed wives, in tattered cotton gowns, with slippers down at the heel and out at the toe, leading little ones by the hand whose cheeks were pale and their forms emaciated from hunger. Some of them were evidently feeble-minded or idiots—begotten, possibly, in a fit of intoxication, or perhaps unattended by a physician in some spell of disease incident to childhood. Some were babes in arms, whose mothers vainly tried to still their cries by giving them nourishment from breasts in which the milk had turned to tears and gall. Children were there who had no mothers, but subsisted in mysterious ways. Widows, too, so poor that they were unable to buy mourning for their dead husbands and, truth to say, there was little need, for they were better off without them. And the drunkards ! Habitual drunkards, men who never draw a sober breath ; and occasional drunkards, who reform periodically but always relapse. Men who treat, and men who hang around saloons, waiting to be treated. Men who pay for their drinks, and men who resort to strange devices to secure credit and cheat the bar-keeper. Last of all came a detachment of tatterdemalions from the county farms and poorhouses, boys and girls from the State reform school, and convicts from the jails and penitentiaries marching in platoons, by fours, but in the lockstep, except the girls, who were arm in arm. One of the paupers had a hand-organ, on which he ground out the Rogues' March.

Another strange thing I saw ; nothing living, but a wagon upon which were displayed, in jars, anatomical specimens of the physiological effects of alcohol—ulcerated stomachs, livers turned into pure fat, congested kidneys, and other horrors ; and some boys were distributing copies of a pamphlet containing the true and authentic histories of the jolly fellows who owned them in the flesh.

And there were banners. One bore an embroidered representation of Nero in his cups. Another was a picture of the Feast of Belshazzar, by a noted artist, painted and given to a creditor, in payment of an old but unsettled score for material inspiration. The most striking thing in it was a group of dancing girls, whose voluptuous figures were but half hidden by the gauze scarfs which they held in their hands. Not all of them were so costly or elaborate as these two. A rude but effective sketch in charcoal of a brawl over a game of cards, with a dead man falling from his chair into a pool of blood, and another of a patient dying of delirium tremens in a hospital, seemed to be from the same hand. Mottoes there were without number, painted in black on transparencies, and I wondered how they would look, if lighted from within by a few rays somehow captured and brought from a region where the flame is said to be inextinguishable. One of these transparencies declared that "In the sacred cause of liberty our fathers died" ; another, "We know our rights, and knowing dare maintain." Upon one was the single word "Cana," and a fourth bore the profane inscription : "Damn the W. C. T. U."

What more I might have seen I do not know. Perhaps a hearse, carrying some sot to a dishonored grave. Possibly the spirits of departed fathers and mothers hovering over their degenerate sons, endeavoring to restrain them from evil courses. Or even a conflict in the air between the powers of light and of darkness, of which all earthly struggles are a faint and poor reflection. But my friend spoke, and dispelled the illusion. I was awake again. He simply said :

"Who that knows life and has a heart in his bosom can witness such a sight as that without a pang of bitter feeling ?"

This morning, the papers say, "A very respectable, intelligent, well-dressed body of men." Yes. What is so respectable as selfishness ? How high should we rate the intelligence of the tiger seeking his prey ? And what are good clothes, when they are bought with the price of blood, and children go in rags, to pay for them ?

CHARLES OLDHAM.

James G. Blaine, the Republican candidate for the Presidency of the United States in 1884, was in his early life a teacher of the blind. He was elected to that position in the Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind, June 25, 1852, and continued in it for nearly two years, when he resigned, to become editor of the *Kennebec Journal*. The journal of the institution, kept by him, without an erasure or blot, for which the trustees made him an honorary allowance of $100 extra, can, we presume, still be seen by any curious visitor to the City of Brotherly Love.

The Egyptian hieroglyphic of charity is very striking—a naked child, with a heart in his hand, giving honey to a wingless bee. A child, humble and meek. With a heart in his hand, because the heart and hand of a charitable man must go together ; he must be a cheerful giver. Giving honey to a bee, not to a drone. To a bee without wings : help such as would work, but cannot.

PROFIT-SHARING.

We presented our readers, in August, with a brief sketch of the views of Lujo Brentano on the labor question, and they will remember that his final conclusion is that the remedy for the troubles growing out of industrial disputes between employers and employed is arbitration.

Arbitration presupposes a divided interest and a struggle of which it is the termination. Other writers upon this difficult problem think that it may be possible, by uniting the interests of the employer and the employed, to dispense with the necessity or occasion for any conflict between the two. This they propose to accomplish by what has been happily termed "profit-sharing," of which Mr. Sedley Taylor is one of the chief apostles.*

The inventor of this plan was a French house-painter named Leclaire, the son of a poor shoemaker. On the 15th of February, 1842, he announced his intention of dividing among a certain number of his workmen a part of the profits derived from their labor. During the six years from 1842 to 1848 inclusive, an average of $3,750 was distributed annually to about eighty workmen in his employ, in proportion to the amount of wages severally earned by them. He had, in 1838, established a "Mutual Aid Society" for his hands, which was supported by monthly subscriptions from its members, and which, in 1853, was reorganized on the basis of a share of profits to be given by the house at its annual taking of stock. In 1860, a further change was made in the management, by which the members, instead of drawing out the money due them, were entitled to retiring pensions. This Mutual Aid Society was, in 1864, formally incorporated and made a perpetual sleeping-partner in the firm of Leclaire et Compagnie. The year following, Leclaire withdrew from Paris to the village of Herblay (of which he was appointed mayor), with the avowed intention of accustoming his young institution to walk alone; and in 1866 he resigned his position as president of the society, in favor of M. Charles Robert, who has occupied it ever since with conspicuous energy and devotion. In 1869, Leclaire impressed a character of perpetuity on the organization of the house itself, by a formal deed which provided that thenceforth the net profits of the business should be divided, in certain fixed proportions, between the managing partners, the Mutual Aid Society, and workmen forming the regular staff of the house. He died in 1872. Down to 1871 the benefits of participation were restricted to the workmen who formed the permanent staff of the house; but in that year they were thrown open to every one in its employ. The entire sum paid out of profits from the commencement of participation, in 1842, down to 1862 inclusive, whether in cash or bonuses or to the Mutual Aid Society, was $665,000; the yearly business of the house, which in the year of Leclaire's death fell slightly short of $400,000, was, in 1882, nearly $630,000. The details of the organization will be found in Mr. Taylor's book, if any one is sufficiently interested to look at them. The spirit in which Leclaire did his work is illustrated by his saying, on his death-bed: "I am the humble disciple of Him who has told us to do to others what we would have others do to us, and to love our neighbor as ourselves." And his successor, M. Robert, has said that "the regeneration of society must come through economic science enlightened by the spirit of the gospel."

From 1844 the Paris and Orleans Railway Company has assigned a share in the profits of the road to the permanent staff of employés of every grade.

The history of profit-sharing in the New Orleans Company falls into three periods.

The first, which extends from 1843 to 1848, shows a genuine ready-money participation, constituted by a charge of so much per cent. on the receipts, distributed at variable rates corresponding to the different classes of employés who form the *personnel* of a great company. A very important share was assigned to the executive body, heads of departments, and superior employés.

The second period begins with the revolution of 1848. Ideas of equality having got the upper hand, the differing rates for different classes of employés disappear, and profit-sharing among them all takes place in a uniform manner proportionately to wages or salary. The sum allotted to each is now divided into three equal parts: the first is handed over in cash; the second is credited to a savings-bank account, withdrawable only by consent of the board of directors; the third is paid to the State Pension Office. During this period the share in profits reaches, in 1853, nearly forty-one per cent. on each employé's earnings.

The third period, the starting-point of which is marked by the application of the regulation of 1863, and by a diminution of profits, begins with the year 1865. The regulation orders that the share in profits be first applied, up to ten per cent. on wages received, to a payment to the Pension Office. This share is in process of diminution, and there will soon, under the operation of the new regulation, be hardly any thing left to be distributed in ready money or put into savings-bank. In fact, on the one side the fusion of other lines of railway with that of Orleans has involved a considerable increase of *personnel* without a proportionate increase of receipts, and on the other the company finds itself compelled to appeal to the state guaranty. While this guaranty remains in force, and until the complete reimbursement to be made to the state of all sums advanced by it on this score, the allotment to the employés of a sum equal to ten per cent. on their annual earnings has been allowed to rank among the working expenses, and the state makes up this percentage in virtue of its guaranty. This participation by the employés, or rather the subvention which supplements it, is thus maintained in spite of losses which the company may incur. For a lacking profit is substituted a charge under general expenses. The articles of the statutes and regulations relative to participation still remain, but if participation itself continues to exist, it is in a latent state. Its animation is suspended, so long as the state guaranty continues to operate.

The *Maison Chaix*, a very large publishing house in Paris, which divides annually fifteen per cent. of the net profits realized, is another conspicuous example of the system. But competition with the *Imprimerie Nationale* has so reduced the profits that in 1882 each participant received only one and a half per cent. on his year's wages.

The advocates of profit-sharing claim for it that it insures:

(1) Increased production due to the cessation of all deliberate waste of time during the hours of work.

(2) Diminution in costs of superintendence, much of which could be dispensed with, if it were no longer necessary to extort work by the fear of detected idling and consequent dismissal.

(3) Savings to be effected by more thrifty and thoughtful handling of materials, machinery, and appliances of all kinds.

(4) Improvement in quality of production, due not only to better work, but also to advances in technical procedure suggested by the ingenuity of the artificer brought to bear fruitfully upon the facts of his daily experience.

It exists under three principal forms. In the first the share due to each workman and employé is distributed at the end of the year in ready money, without conditions as to the use to be made of it. This is the plan followed in the piano-forte factory of M. Bord. The second is that of M. Courcy, director of the *Compagnie d'Assurances Générales*, in which no part of the share of profits is handed over in dividends, but each successive share is capitalized and accumulated at four per cent. compound interest until the beneficiary has completed twenty-five years of work in the house, or is sixty-five years of age. At the expiration of this period, he is at liberty either to sink the value of his account in the purchase of a life-annuity in the office, or to invest it in French government or railway securities. Should he decide on the investment as against the life-insurance, he is allowed to draw only the annual dividends arising from it, as the company retain the stock certificates, and not till after his death abandon their hold on the principal in favor of such persons he may designate by will to receive it. The third system is a combination of these two, of which the house of *Billon et Isaac* affords an illustration—a joint-stock company, which manufactures parts of music-boxes, at St. Jean, near Geneva.

The most important work on this subject is that of Dr. Victor Böhmert, director of the Royal Statistical Bureau,

* Profit-sharing between Capital and Labor: Six Essays by Sedley Taylor, M.A., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; to which is added a Memorandum on the Industrial Partnership at the Whitwood Collieries (1865–1874), by Archibald Briggs and the late Henry Currer Briggs, together with Remarks on the Memorandum by Sedley Taylor. London: Kegan Paul, French, & Co., 1 Paternoster Square, 1884.

and professor of political economy at the Polytechnicum, at Dresden. For the results in Paris alone, the chief authority is a volume by M. Fougerousse. A French Society of Participation publishes a quarterly bulletin, from which much information can be gained. Mr. Carroll D. Wright has a chaper on the subject, giving many details as to the results of the same experiment, on a smaller scale, in the United States, in the 17th annual report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor.

The connection of the labor question with the discussion of public relief in its various forms is obvious, since war is always a fruitful source of impoverishment, and those who desire to see a diminution of pauperism must feel the deepest interest in witnessing a cessation, on just and equitable terms, of the great industrial war which is shaking the world at the present moment.

Mr. Taylor says:

The benefits accruing from participation successfully practised may be thus summed up. It furnishes to the workman a supplementary income under circumstances which directly encourage, or even by a gentle compulsion actually enforce, saving; and, by associating him in a very real sense with his employer, it arouses aspirations from which great moral improvement may be confidently anticipated. The employer, besides sharing in whatever surplus profits are realized by the more efficient labor which participation calls forth, obtains the boon of industrial ability and the support of a united, corporate feeling elsewhere unknown. Independently of these advantages to the two parties directly concerned, the customer of a participating house finds in its very organization a guaranty for enhanced excellence of workmanship and rapidity of execution.

The fund on which participation draws, is the surplus profit realized in consequence of the enhanced efficiency of work done under its stimulating influence. Such extra profit is, therefore, obtainable wherever workmen have it in their power to increase the quantity, improve the quality, or diminish the cost-price of their staple production by more effective exertion, by increased economy in the use of tools and materials, or by a reduction in the costs of superintendence. In other words, the surplus profit realizable will depend on the influence which manual labor is capable of exerting upon production. Evidently, therefore, this influence will be greatest in branches of industry where the skill of the laborer plays the leading part, where the outlay on tools and materials bears a small ratio to the cost of production, and where individual superintendence is difficult and expensive, It will, on the contrary, be least effective in industries where mechanism is the principal agency, where interest on capital, fixed in machinery, is the chief element of cost-price, and where the workmen assembled in large factories can be easily and effectively superintended.

These limitations and qualifications seem to us to indicate that at best it can be but a partial and inadequate remedy for the evils of which laboring-men complain, and which threaten us with profound and possibly protracted disturbances of the peace and public security.

Brentano says:

From the workman's point of view, profit-sharing assures him of a more liberal income. But it does not secure to him his rights, nor leave him free to participate in the fixing of the price of his labor; it does not render him any more independent of his employer, and it does not render his income more certain, nor insure to him a broader personal development. It is an incomplete solution of the labor question. Whoever attentively examines the rich treasures of information collected by Böhmert on this subject, will perceive that the various systems of profit-sharing have proved successful only where they have wrought an improvement in the character of the work corresponding to the improvement in the workman's condition, and at the same time have not proved a restriction upon his personal independence.

Ercildowne is the name of a new private home for mental and nervous diseases, in the suburbs of Philadelphia, at Wissinoming, on the New York division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The proprietors are: Dr. R. H. Chase, Superintendent of the male department of the Norristown Hospital for the Insane; Dr. Ewing Jordan, and Dr. H. C. Harris, both late assistant physicians in the same institution. General Hartranft is chairman of the advisory board. The institution occupies the luxurious country-seat of a wealthy man, lately deceased, with twenty-nine acres of lawn and gardens. The design of the proprietors is to afford a quiet secluded home for a class of nervous patients who do not require the restraint of a hospital.

To clean plate-glass, moisten calcined magnesia with pure benzine, so that a mass is formed sufficiently moist to let a drop form when preserved. This must be kept in bottles with ground-glass stoppers, to prevent evaporation of the benzine. Apply with a bit of raw cotton.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

The Individualized Treatment of the Insane: by John S. Butler, M.D., Hartford, Conn. [Reprint from the *Alienist and Neurologist.*] The author's kind and gentle spirit breathes through every line of this article, and he has done good service in making the points, *first*, that we are too much disposed to enlarge our institutions for the insane unduly, and, *second*, that a work greater than care or kindly care remains to be done—that of the prevention of insanity: "a work which, in order to be of the highest success, must reach back often to the early life, the family, the nursery, and the school."

Study on Insanity: Review of Stone's Case: by John Morris, M.D., Commissioner of Lunacy, Baltimore, Maryland. [Read before the Baltimore Medical Association, May 14, 1886. Reprinted from the *Maryland Medical Journal.*] W. E. Stone, who shot his wife, killing her, and unsuccessfully attempted to take his own life, was acquitted of murder on the plea of insanity. Dr. Morris argues, from the evidence, that the proof of insanity adduced was insufficient. We agree with him in the opinion expressed, that "the sanity or insanity of a prisoner should be determined before he is placed on trial." The statement that "to establish insanity you must establish irresponsibility" is new to us.

Address in State Medicine, delivered at the Thirty-Seventh Annual Session of the American Medical Association, in St. Louis, on May 6, 1886, by John H. Rauch, M.D., of Illinois, Chairman of the Section on State Medicine. [Reprinted from the Journal of the American Medical Association.] This is an able and interesting paper, in which are discussed: the proper function of the State in the preservation of the public health; the history of the effort to regulate the practice of medicine; the proper standard of medical education; recent progress in "preventive" medicine; quarantine; immigration; and the latest theories as to the origin and communication of such diseases as cholera, diphtheria, small-pox, etc. From an intimate personal acquaintance with the work of Dr. Rauch, we have the highest possible opinion of its value to the public, which will be even better appreciated by and by, when its results become more fully known and understood, than it is at present.

Inebriety and Heredity, by T. D. Crothers, M.D., Hartford, Connecticut: [Read before the Temperance Institute of the Presbyterian Churches of New York City, February 7, 1886.] Dr. Crothers concludes, from his experience as superintendent of an inebriate asylum, that inebriety is one of the same group of diseases in which insanity, consumption, epilepsy, idiocy, paralysis, and hysteria, are classed; and that among the causes which lead to it heredity is prominent. In closing his argument he remarks: "The great armies of the insane, inebriates, criminals, and paupers, are largely the doomed victims of the sins of our forefathers. Our duty to them is to house them, to protect them from perpetuating their defects and injuring others." Against this extreme view of the duty of the State, we enter a mild protest; we do not yet see the situation precisely in this light. We dissent from the position that "marriage should be under control of law, and from the judgment of the family physician." Neither do we agree that it is a wrong to hold the inebriate accountable, in the sense in which a lunatic is irresponsible. Such sayings weaken the effect of the truths stated. The great moral, that parents should be temperate, if they care for the health and happiness of their offspring, is sufficiently plain, without illuminating it by colored lights, in order to heighten the effect produced by it upon the imagination.

LOCKED UP.

This is the title of Mr. Richard Vaux's latest pamphlet on the prison question.

In a certain sense Mr. Vaux is a prophet and has met with the fate of all prophets, which is to be disregarded while living, and, what is worse, misunderstood. His facilities for obtaining a knowledge of the prison question have been exceptional, and he has made the most of them. A lawyer by profession, the oldest editor in Pennsylvania, at one time mayor of Philadelphia, and for nearly half a century at the head of the Eastern Penitentiary (which he visits in person nearly every day of every week in the year), a man of wealth, socially and intellectually prominent, and influential in political circles, his opinions upon any subject are not to be passed without weighing their significance and value. Much less are they to be ignored, in a matter which has absorbed more of his time and the energies of his heart, as well as his brain, than any other to which he has devoted his attention.

In this country, Mr. Vaux has been for all these years in a hopeless minority. He has been the apologist and advocate of the system of imprisonment known first as the "solitary," then as the "separate," and now as the "individual," which has been pretty much unanimously rejected by American legislatures as too expensive, and on other grounds less mercenary in their character. But he has not for an instant lost the courage of his convictions, nor ceased to fulminate against the evils of congregating criminals and allowing them more or less freedom of intercourse with each other while in prison. He has felt a noble scorn for the interested motives which have, to too great an extent, controlled the organization and management of our penitentiary system. He has insisted on the divorce of prisons and politics, the training of prison officials for the discharge of their duties, and the retention of competent men in office, the subordination of pecuniary considerations to others more nearly affecting not merely the welfare of the prisoner but of the community at large, the scientific study of the criminal and of the effect of prison life upon him, and the recognition of the importance of measures to prevent the prisoner from contamination by contact with others worse than himself, thus affording him opportunity for serious reflection in seclusion, and avoiding the possibility of his making criminal acquaintances and forming schemes for fresh depredations, while in the custody of the law. Especially he has investigated the causes of crime, and made it clear that one principal cause is defective education, not in the direction of letters, so much as of practical equipment for the battle of life, by the knowledge of some useful trade or avocation which would enable a young man to earn an honest living and make him feel that the paths of integrity are more pleasant, as well as more profitable, than those of crime. More, perhaps, than any other man among us, he has made the study of the individual character and history of criminals his business, and reduced the results of his observations, in his reports, to a statistical form. The obligation under which we are to him is far from being properly appreciated and acknowledged. But a future generation will do him justice.

The following opening sentences of his pamphlet deserve to be pondered long and well:

> It is unfortunate that the discussion of prison systems of discipline for the punishment of convicts is mostly confined to those who really do not educate themselves to comprehend the subject. General impressions are too much mistaken for thoughtful conclusions. The subject can not be so treated. There are very many questions so intimately connected with a thorough understanding of it, as to forbid the possibility of its superficial comprehension. As well might one discourse of astronomy after looking up to the stars.

But we do not propose to quote much from this essay or even to give its substance. Too many topics are touched upon by it for that. We refer to it simply in order to call attention to Mr. Vaux's analysis of the inmates of prisons, whom he divided into three groups, namely: (1) Young offenders; (2) the inherently bad; (3) the crime class; and to his suggestion that those whom he includes under this last title—the crime class—may be treated by what he designates as a "mixed plan."

He defines the crime-class as follows:

> They were made criminal by neglect in youth, inherent depravity, mental unsoundness, physical disease, association, want of trade-knowledge, and no subjection to authority. Taught in schools, a little learning to them was dangerous, because it disqualified them for the useful industries, and forced them to crime for self-support without labor. To read and write, and the usual instruction obtained in schools, with no training for the life-work of honest people, made them the easy and willing victims of any form of temptation that presented a reward for violating the laws of society. This for them was to live without labor.

He has already said that "there are now three methods in use in the prisons of the United States—the mass treatment, the class treatment, and the individual treatment," (of which class treatment is the middle term: it is the system pursued in the northern and middle States, where "some effort is made to divide the prisoners into workers in shops on special industries"). Observe, now, that he says:

> The class system might be made to present opportunities for dealing with these crime-class convicts. To make it effective, the predominant characteristics of the Individual Treatment must be united with a wise plan of judicious classification.

The individual system "united with" something else is no longer the individual system pure and simple. But all doubt as to Mr. Vaux's meaning disappears, when we read:

> A wise and thorough investigation should be made by the prison authorities as to the character, early associations, and the motive which impelled to crime, or crime-cause, of each member of the crime-class. The convict, during the period for this investigation, ought to be separated from all asssociation with other convicts.
>
> When a satisfactory conclusion is reached as to the condition of the convict, physically and morally, then he might be placed in a class of persons all of whom are as near on an equality as may be possible. This requires sound judgment and cultivated experience in the officials of the institution. This class should be kept at labor only for the purpose of earning their daily support, without any intention to secure a profit to the State.
>
> From time to time, proper and judicious examination of these convicts ought to be made. When it is believed that some evidence of a desire to return to honest life is manifested, such individuals ought to be subjected (again) to the individual treatment.

Coming from the source it does, we regard this utterance as probably the most pregnant declaration on the prison question which has ever appeared in print on this side of the Atlantic Ocean. It indicates that the protracted discussion of the past sixteen years, if we date from the Cincinnati Congress, or of the past twenty-five years, if we date from the time when the late Dr. E. C. Wines entered the service of the New York Prison Association, as its secretary, is about to terminate in a general agreement as to principles and methods, the effect of which will soon be apparent in legislation and in an improved prison administration.

For ourselves, we avow our belief in the "mixed" plan. In ignoring the value and utility of the individual system, including cellular separation by day and night, the American prison system has been grievously at fault. All have conceded that cellular separation, in minor prisons, and for short terms of imprisonment, is not only desirable but indispensable. But we have not been able to bring it about, partly because the penitentiaries of this country, with the single exception of Cherry Hill, have been organized and conducted upon a purely congregate plan. Our State prisons have been one great obstacle in the way of an improved jail administration. Indirectly, they have been a cause of crime, therefore, inasmuch as it is in our county jails that the seeds of crime are sown and germinate and blossom.

If, now, Mr. Brockway will incorporate cellular separation, as the initial stage of imprisonment, into his scheme

(as practised in the Crofton system), he will approach nearer to Mr. Vaux. And if Mr. Vaux will accept some modification of the strictly separate system, by which certain prisoners, at least, shall pass from the cell, at some stage of their incarceration, and upon some established conditions, into work-shops, in association, he will approach Mr. Brockway. When at last these two shall have come together, each learning something from the other, and each conceding to the other some unessential points of difference, then will be fulfilled the Scriptural saying: Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

To conclude: Mr. Vaux does not agree to all the features of the Elmira plan, as we understand him. He has nothing to say, in his pamphlet, of the mark system, nor of the indeterminate sentence; and he touches the question of conditional liberation in a very guarded manner. We doubt whether he believes in conditional liberation, and incline to the opinion that he thinks that liberation, when it takes place, should be absolute. But hear him:

After several convictions for felonies, it may be asserted that such a person (inherently criminal—one who lives by the persistent purpose to commit crime) forfeits a claim for his liberty. His last sentence should be for a period to be ended on such evidence as the prison authorities represent as showing a determination to avoid, in the future, criminal acts. If, during the detention of such a person, he has been subject to influences for his reformation, and he evinces a contrition that is real and not simulated, and it is believed that he will make efforts to regain a good standing in society, then the period of his detention should end by proper legal authority.

Again:

The crime-class should be deprived of voluntary self-control, until society has some reason to believe it is to be protected against it.

And again:

It may be true that the constitutional power in the governor of a State to grant a pardon justifies conditions on which it may be granted. But the pardon reaches only the crime. The individual gains his liberty, because the crime for which he was incarcerated is obliterated. Any previous condition in a pardon, as a pardon itself, is to free the convict from prison. A pardon could not make a condition that one form of punishment is to be substituted for another form or character of imprisonment.

We trust that the writer's aim "to invite renewed consideration of this subject in its bearings on society and the prisoner," by the publication of this brochure, may be abundantly realized.

BRITISH REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.

There are four groups of schools included under the general title "Reformatory and Industrial Schools of Great Britain," namely: reformatory schools, industrial schools, truant schools, and day industrial schools. The following table, which we have compiled from Col. Inglis' report for 1885, gives the more important particulars concerning them.

Item.	Reform.	Industrial.	Truant.	Day.	Total.
Present January 1, 1885	6,360	17,294	1,982	2,445	28,081
Admitted	1,466	3,763	1,289	1,654	8,172
Total for year	7,826	21,057	3,271	4,099	36,253
Discharged	1,586	3,647	434	1,125	6,792
Remaining Dec. 31	6,240	17,410	2,837	2,974	29,461
Boys	5 225	13,515	2,837	1,903	23,480
Girls	1,015	3,895	—	1,071	5,981
On license	878	1,016	2,234	650	4,778
Receipts	$631,000	$1,975,795	$90,650	$90,640	$2,728,085
Expenses	619,880	1,937,000	88,785	90,000	2,735,665
No. of schools	59	143	10	16	228
Cost per school	$10,500	$14,000	$9,000	$5,600	$12,000
Cost per capita	100	80	98	—	—

From these figures, it appears that, after deducting the number of pupils "on license," that is to say absent on probation, the average size of these schools is about 100 pupils. The number of pupils in the reformatories of the United States, according to the last census, was 11,468, in 52 institutions, or an average of 220 inmates in each. With little more than half the population of this country, Great Britain cares for double the number of children; the proportion in institutions there is 1 to 935, while here it is 1 to 4,373. Their institutions are evidently much less expensive than ours, though part of the difference is to be accounted for by the greater cost of living with us.

The effect of the reform-school system in reducing juvenile crime is illustrated by the fact that in 1856 there were, in England and Wales, 99,755 adult commitments and 13,891 juvenile commitments; but in 1884, there were 171,588 adult commitments, and only 4,879 juvenile commitments, whereas, if the ratio of juvenile to adult commitments had remained what it was in 1856, the number of juvenile commitments would have been about 24,000.

All of the truant schools, and all the day industrial schools, except one in Liverpool, are under the management of school boards. Of the industrial schools, all but sixteen, and all of the reformatory schools, owe their existence to voluntary and independent efforts.

The prison reports of offenders recognized in prison during the year 1885 as having been in a reformatory school, give the following result: The number so identified in English and Welsh prisons was 473, and in Scotch prisons, 154, or 624 in all, which is to the total number in such schools as one to ten.

Why are philanthropists generally so weak, or at all events so wanting in commanding talents, and even in common-sense? Why are their schemes so constantly futile, abortive, and even mischievous? Why is their career so strewed with failures, wrecks, and ruins—beyond the example of men of harder hearts and less generous emotions? There are, no doubt, a few brilliant exceptions; and cases might be pointed out in which real, permanent, and signal good has resulted from the exertions of these worthy men; but the good has generally followed, not from the adoption of their plans, but from their zeal having compelled the attention of colder and abler men to the work to be accomplished. Their views are so often injudicious, and their schemes so noxious, that a great portion of existing evils may be traced, either in their origin or their present exaggerated form, to benevolent interferences for their removal, and it may be said, with little exaggeration, that in this world a large part of the business of the wise is to counteract the efforts of the good.

Much of this apparent anomaly we believe to be simply explicable by the fact that in these cases one part of their nature has been inordinately developed at the expense of the others, as it must be in all inordinate developments.

But besides this, there is another cause. The extent and severity of human miseries are so enormous, and the depths to which the roots of them have struck is so measureless, that few men of keen or ready sympathies can study or contemplate them with a calm mind, without either falling into despair, or losing that power of patient investigation and passionless reflection, from which alone any sound projects for their cure can spring. Human tenderness is a sad disturber of human intelligence.

In truth those can only safely and serviceably encounter social evils who can both watch and in some measure imitate God's mode of dealing with them. Patience; slow and flank approaches; a dealing with roots, not branches—with the seat, not the symptoms, of the epidemic horror; the preparing, rather than the ordaining, of a change or cure; these characterize the treatment of the world's maladies by Him who is "patient because eternal"—together with a majestic indifference to, or rather a sublime endurance of, sorrow, suffering, and sin, during the intervening time, however long, till the seed has borne fruit, and the cause has worked onward to its issue. Few, we believe, will ever effect real, radical, permanent, social amelioration, who endeavor to cure evils by direct enactment; whose feelings are too keen and sensitive to wait the time of the Most High, and to contemplate with unflinching faith and patience the sufferings continued through or by reason of the remedial process, sometimes even aggravated by it. Hence the coldest tempers are generally, in matters of philanthropy, the soundest thinkers and the safest guides and administrators. A tender-hearted statesman is almost more to be dreaded than a despot or an adventurer. To be worthy and efficient coadjutors of God, on the great arena of the world, we must be able to borrow some of the divine, impassive calm with which, age after age, He has looked down upon the slow progress and the lingering miseries of His children.—W. R. Gregg.

OUR LETTER-BOX.

The RECORD is improving with each number. It is a marvel to me that you can get so much that is valuable in so little space. Such a work must grow in appreciation the longer it is continued, and I earnestly pray that it may exceed your most hopeful anticipations.

WM. P. LETCHWORTH.

Glen Iris, Portageville, N. Y., September 18th.

I beg to tell you how thoroughly admirable the RECORD seems to me, and how much we owe you for this work—so difficult to appreciate. I am recommending it to all my friends, and shall gladly further its success in any way.

J. G. BROOKS.

Brockton, Mass., October 2d.

Having myself taken the INTERNATIONAL RECORD from its commencement, and profited much by it, especially in suggestions for charity organization work (which largely falls to my lot here), I should be glad to see its circulation extended. If you will send specimen copies to [here follows a list of names] I am confident that it will result in some subscriptions.

HENRY V. PELTON.

Poughkeepsie, New York, September 22d.

Thank you, Mr. Pelton. What the paper needs is subscribers. Whether it can be continued or not depends, of course, upon its being self-sustaining, which it is not, as yet, though every month it approaches nearer to becoming so. If all our friends, who feel as you do, that the effort is worthy of support, would interest themselves to secure for us additional names, we should soon be beyond the fear of having ultimately to suspend publication. We can not canvass for subscribers, as papers do which are of a more popular character: our subscribers are too widely scattered, not only throughout the country but throughout the world. We can not descend to the ordinary methods of obtaining a circulation, by offering premiums to subscribers. We can only succeed by deserving to succeed, and by the gradual extension of a knowledge of the work done and attempted by us. For the diffusion of this information we are almost absolutely dependent upon the good-will and kindly offices of our actual readers. If others will follow your example and send names of possible friends of our work, to whom we may send specimen copies, we shall take it as a great favor.

OUR EXCHANGES.

We ask the favor of an exchange with every paper devoted to any of the specialties coming within the sphere of the RECORD, printed at home or abroad. Direct them to the editor, not to the publishers.

The third number of the twentieth volume of the *Blätter für Gefängnisskunde* reaches us after the fourth and fifth, having been published a month later. It contains five of the papers prepared for the meeting of the Association of German Prison Officials at Frankfort in September.

We failed, by accident, to speak of the *Bulletin de la Société Générale des Prisons* for June. Dr. Merry Delabost, in his second article on the Penitentiary System, discusses individual imprisonment, the results of prolonged cellular confinement, agricultural penitentiaries, penal colonies, establishments for correctional education, and the care of insane convicts. M. Bruyère, chief of the Division of Enfants Assistés of the Seine, presents a complete account of the system of care of destitute and morally abandoned children in Paris. The statistics of Italian prisons for 1881–'82 are commented upon by M. E. Pagès. The work of patronage receives attention in the form of reports of meetings of patronage societies. Among the American topics touched upon in this number are: the work of the Maryland Prison Association and the report of the Detroit House of Correction. We again remind our readers that M. Ernest Passez is the correspondent of the French Society for the United States, and that he desires copies of all prison and reformatory reports and documents published in this country, which should be sent to him at his address, which is Rue St.-Honore, 27, Paris.

We have the August and September numbers of the *Revue Internationale de l'Enseignement des Sourds-Muets*. M. Dupont suggests the importance of precautions against poisoning by gas used for illuminating purposes in institutions. M. Dupont prints a letter to the physician of a semi-mute who retains partial hearing, urging her education strictly by the ear. An account is given of the obsequies of Prof. Berthier, in Paris. A translation is furnished of Miss Mary S. Garrett's "Directions to Parents of Deaf Children, for their Treatment from Infancy," which is declared to be in absolute harmony with the resolutions adopted by the Congress of Bordeaux in 1882. M. Raymond's discourse on the Training of the Ear, at the distribution of prizes of the National Institution, is printed, and tends to confirm the views of our own Prof. Gillespie. Dr. Itard succeeded in restoring in part the hearing of two out of three of the pupils of the Abbé Sicard, upon whom he experimented. M. Snyckers writes on the need of model lessons for pupils taught on the oral method, and furnishes himself an interesting illustration of the method of teaching number, which is the first of a series, which will no doubt, when completed, form a text-book on arithmetic for the deaf.

We are indebted to M. A. Bélanger, professor in the National Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Paris, for a complete file of the *Revue Française de l'Education des Sourds-Muets*. The articles in the October number are, for the most part, continued articles, on which we shall comment when they are completed. We have not yet had time to examine the back numbers, but are favorably impressed with the appearance of this journal.

The *Annals of the Deaf and Dumb* has changed its name to the *Annals of the Deaf*. The October number contains Prof. Denison's article on the Manual Alphabet as a Part of the Public School Course; The Importance of Special Religious Services for Deaf-Mutes, by Prof. Fay; an account of the Convention at Berkeley; an obituary notice of Prof. Stewart, of the Ohio Institution, who died on the way to California; Object-Lessons in Science, by D. Greenberger; the judicial decision of the Supreme Court of New Mexico, that an educated deaf child is an incompetent witness; a notice of Prof. A. Graham Bell's paper before the National Academy of Sciences on the Deaf-Mutes of Martha's Vineyard (Massachusetts); School Items; etc. We have borrowed freely, as we intend to do always, from the columns of this admirable magazine.

In the *Journal of Mental Science*, for October, will be found Dr. Savage's address, delivered at the annual meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association, on "The Pathology of Insanity," which he treats under three heads, namely: insanity as relating to disease of the brain, the insanity resulting from diseases in other parts of the body, and disorders of mental functions, on which he lays great stress. Dr. Ireland writes on the "Insanity of King Louis II. of Bavaria." Dr. Strahan's view, that "so long as the medical officers of asylums are engaged so largely in important and weighty business matters as to exclude the possibility of scientific research receiving any thing but the slightest passing attention, the medical spirit in asylums must flicker and burn low," would draw down upon him, were he an American superintendent, the wrath of many of his professional brethren. Dr. Campbell discusses the "Use and Abuse of Seclusion." Dr. Shuttleworth furnishes an article on "Consanguineous Marriage." Dr. Hack Tuke disputes the

prevalent impression that insanity is on the increase. He says :

So far as statistics teach us any thing, they fail to show the slightest increase in occurring insanity in this country (England) since January 1, 1878, when we apply the only reliable test (the proportion of first attacks to the population) to the investigation of the problem under discussion. * * * There is a large class of persons unstable of brain, and on the border-land of insanity, about whom statistics are altogether silent, and this class may have increased without our being able actually to demonstrate it.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *Monthly Register*, for September, has a valuable editorial on pauperism in the city of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania. The total number of persons, it says, receiving public relief in that State in 1885 was 110,821, and these figures are characterized by it as "alarming." It prints Mrs. Mary E. Bagg's paper before the Association for the Advancement of Women, entitled "Justice and not Charity the Need of the Day," which, it appears to us, is open to the criticism that the distinction which she draws between justice and charity is unreal, and her definition of charity a false description of it. Certainly it is not the charity eulogized by St. Paul. The Hebrew conception of charity, as expounded by Rabbi Sonneschein, at the Louisville Conference of Charities, is truer and finer : "The same word, *z'dakah*, that expresses the idea of justice, is the name for charity. Acts of charity are called in Hebrew by a compound phrase, *g'miluth chessed*, which means literally *repaying love received*. How beautifully suggestive are these words." There is no charity which is not justice, and injustice is never charity.

We commend to our readers an article in *Science* for September 24th, on "The Social Waste of a Great City." The writer, Dr. L. L. Seaman, late chief of staff to Blackwell's Island Hospitals, says truly :

Outside a group of philanthropists and professional people whose lives are spent in the service of this great and growing under-world of poverty (breeding desperation), and vice (breeding both poverty and crime), few care or think about it, or undertake to penetrate its dreadful secrets ; while the casual shoaling of the harbor-channels, the grounding of an ocean-going steamer, the least chill or check of financial thrift, a trace of typhoid or small-pox, the transportation of dressed beef or cattle, the tug and chicanery of rival monopolies, the disgusting encounters of professional pugilists, stir and thrill the pulses of the metropolis to their liveliest beat. All the while, this menacing under-world with a biting irony asserts itself, and compels recognition as imperatively as does the cancer as it eats its way to the vitals.

Again :

The heredity of evil is an element of incalculable significance, the fearful rolling-up or rolling-down from generation to generation, through all the ages, of the weakness, vice, and moral darkness of the past. The increase is more than compounded. It spreads and penetrates in every direction without spending or diluting its death-dealing vigor. Evil is gregarious. It is prolific. It grows into a society of its own, well named the half or under-world. It stamps its offspring indelibly. It not only inbreeds to deadlier purpose ; it grows by what it captures, defiles, and anneals in some vital, hopeless way to itself. The maelstrom has no mercy ; and the would-be fugitives are flung back again and again into the devouring whirlpool of crime and poverty, until the end is reached on the dissecting-table or in Potter's field.

The following criticism is outspoken and fearless :

The Board of Commissioners of Charities and Correction (of the city of New York), together with its entire system from greatest to least, from centre to outpost, is in abject slavery to municipal politics, is a recognized, hopeless appendage of the "machine." It does not spring frankly and wisely from the popular suffrage. [Suppose that it did : what then ?—Ed. RECORD]. It has no freedom, no will, no autonomy. On the contrary, it is honey-combed with bureaucracy and officialism ; and the powers that move and manipulate every member of this great constituency [what ! are there no exceptions ?] are as far removed above their heads as the chess-player above the pieces he manipulates. This is the inherent vice of a system which relegates the administration of the under-world of social waste to the machine and its politicians : for at the outset a vicious circle is established. The dram-shops are the spawning grounds of municipal politics and politicians. Yet these same dram-shops are chiefly responsible for the existence and growth of the very institutions over whose futures the politicians, their other progeny, have come to preside. What else could happen than has steadily happened—perpetual jostlings, abuse of discipline, tampering with the courts, muddling of justice, and an impassable chasm which separates between a time-serving officialism and the scientific and professional superintendencies—a deadlock which discourages if it does not paralyze the *esprit-de-corps* of medical administration ; which withholds the incentive for legitimate emulation, and reduces the men who devote, and not unfrequently surrender, their lives to the standing of tide-waiters under the bidding of an irresponsible board, which is itself nothing better than an accident in political evolution ? The machine is supreme ; and the commissioners rattle their own hand-cuffs of partisan servitude, while reducing this array of employés and subordinates to the lock-step of partisan bondage.

We fancy that there should be some gleams of light in the surrounding darkness, to give this picture, so strongly drawn, genuine artistic *vraisemblance*. But send for this number of *Science* and read the whole article.

The *Journal of Social Science*, which was issued from the press in September, 1886, contains the papers read at the meeting of the American Association for the Promotion of Social Science, held at Saratoga in September, 1885—just one year previous to publication. This delay is doubtless due to the lack of funds with which to print the number earlier, which leads us to remark—and we wish that rich men would have the goodness to listen to us—that there is no better use to which money can be put than the endowment of some of the educational societies devoted to the study of social questions, which are a feature of the present stage in the development of American civilization. You endow colleges : but do colleges in fact accomplish as much as these societies ? They train individuals in the rudiments of general knowledge and prepare them for a literary or scientific life. But the most of them do not attempt original investigation, with a view to giving the world the benefit of such special studies. These societies have that as their one peculiar purpose, as the Smithsonian Institution has for its object the prosecution of scientific research. Is the systematic, impartial study of the conditions and necessities of social life any less important or less likely to be fruitful of good, than that of the structure of the globe, the forms of physical life, or the cosmic relations of the material universe ? You may say that none of these societies has as yet accomplished any thing of sufficient importance to justify such an appropriation of money. But not one of them—the Social Science Association, the National Prison Association, the National Conference of Charities and Correction, or any other which might be included with these three—has ever had the opportunity to show what could be done, if it were placed beyond the state of absolute impecuniosity and consequent beggary. What could a college do, under similar conditions ? If, on the other hand, it is said that the daily, weekly, and monthly press accomplishes all that such a society, properly equipped for its work, could do, we reply that the answer shows dense ignorance of the nature of the work to be done. An organization which should attempt to do for social science what the Smithsonian Institution has done for physical science, should have means at its command with which to erect a building for its exclusive use, to employ clerks to be set at work in the prosecution of correspondence and the calculation of statistical results, to provide itself with a library, to pay a fair price for contributions of actual merit or for services and expenses in the conduct of original investigations, and print whatever it may regard as worthy of publication, irrespective of pecuniary profit to be derived from sales.

But to return to the Journal, the following is a list of the articles which it contains :

The Annual Address, by the president, Gen. John Eaton.
Report of the General Secretary, Mr. F. B. Sanborn.
The Unnamed Third Party, by the Rev. Dr. Wayland.
Socialism and State Action, by Edward W. Bemis, Ph.D.
Labor Unions under Democratic Government, by D. McGregor Means.
Influence of City Life on Health and Development, by Dr. Grace Peckham.

The Health of American Cities, by Charles F. Wingate.
The Physical Training of Women, by Dr. Lucy M. Hall.
The Constitution in its Relation to National Development, by Edward V. Raynolds.
Land and Law as Agents in Educating Indians, by President Gates, of Rutgers College.
Arbitration of Labor Disputes, by Rev. Washington Gladden.
The Place of Art in Education, by Thomas Davidson.
The Relation of the Drama to Education, by W. O. Partridge.
Child-Life in City and Country, by Charles D. Kellogg.
City and Country Schools, by W. M. Beckner.

Messrs. George E. Crosby & Co., 383 Washington St., Boston, are the printers for the Association, and we presume that copies of this number can be procured through them.

SWISS PRISONS.

Switzerland, as every one is supposed to know, is a republic which consists of an aggregation of similar republics called cantons; and in this particular it resembles the United States of America. What Americans call the nation, the Swiss call the confederation. The number of cantons and demi-cantons is twenty-five. The confederation, as with us, exercises no control over the penal legislation or prison administration of the several cantons, but they possess independent, local jurisdiction, except in regard to political and military offences affecting the confederation. In view of the smallness of the cantons—that of Appenzell-Rhodesinter, for instance, contains only 12,874 inhabitants, and the average number is only about 115,000—we should suppose that the inconveniences arising from this organization must be even greater than in our own country.

In 1874, when the revision of the federal constitution was under discussion, the Swiss Prison Society petitioned the national legislature to submit to a vote of the people a clause which would provide for the establishment of a uniform criminal code, applicable in all the cantons alike; but it was not granted.

In an article on the "Actual State of the Death-Penalty in Switzerland," which Dr. Guillaume, superintendent of the penitentiary of Neuchâtel and secretary of the International Prison Commission, has kindly sent us, he remarks:

> A single canton has not the necessary pecuniary resources to enable it to build prisons for those awaiting trial, reform schools for juvenile delinquents, a workhouse for vicious persons, a cellular penitentiary, a penitentiary with associated labor, an intermediate prison, and refuges for discharged convicts. All classes of prisoners, therefore, of every age, may be met with in a cantonal penitentiary.

In another article, for which our thanks are also due, Dr. Guillaume gives a complete view of the present condition of education in Swiss prisons. In twenty-three establishments the total number of prisoners averages about 1,700. In nearly all of these scholastic instruction is given, but on a very limited scale—not more than from two to five lessons a week, and those only, as a rule, in reading, writing, and arithmetic. At Lenzbourg instruction is also given in designing. The penitentiary of Neuchâtel has a more extended course. It includes geometry, the natural sciences, history, and foreign languages. All but four of these twenty-three prisons have libraries, ranging in number from 80 to more than 20,000 volumes, the total number in all of them being nearly or quite 20,000, or more than ten times the average number of prisoners. We wish that we had any thing like such figures to place alongside of these. The salaries paid to chaplains and teachers seem to an American ridiculously inadequate. The average price paid, in nine prisons, is $200 per year, and in one it is only $20. Here, we presume, the Swiss wish that they had other figures to lay alongside of ours.

With respect to the effect of education in the prison under his charge, Dr. Guillaume says:

> The progress made by many of them has been marked. Little by little I have seen in them the awakening of a taste for intellectual pursuits, as evinced by their use of the library and some of their compositions. It appears to me that we have a right to believe in the alteration of character of a prisoner who, at the beginning of his term of incarceration, took pleasure only in reading of a frivolous sort, but, after having attended school for several months, draws from the library none but scientific or other serious works, and assimilates their contents, as the teacher knows, from his answers to the questions put once a month to all prisoners concerning their reading.

He does not over-estimate the influence of secular education: he insists, indeed, that education alone is not a preservative against crime—on the contrary, it often leads to crime; the entire penitentiary system requires to be based upon the purpose to quicken the moral sensibilities. But those prisoners who apply themselves most assiduously to their studies are also the most diligent and intelligent in their work; they are the most docile and the most even-tempered. The greatest trouble is with those of the least natural intelligence and the least mental discipline prior to admission. They are unable to concentrate their attention for more than a moment on any given subject; their thoughts wander; they dream of no one knows what; they require to be aroused by repeated questions addressed to them personally; and for this class ten minutes of instruction in the cell is usually more effective than ten lessons of an hour each in the school-room.

> In view of these tendencies, we ask ourselves whether this solution of continuity of a logical train of thought, this incapacity to pursue in one's mind a given subject, such as the comparative advantages and disadvantages of a career of integrity or of fraud or immorality, may not rationally be regarded as the source of perhaps the larger part of the crimes and offences of which they are guilty? and whether this is not the point at which preventive meausures may be applied with the greatest hope of a successful result?

We have not a doubt of it.

As to the death-penalty, it was abolished by a popular vote of 340,000 in the affirmative to 198,013 in the negative. But four years later, in 1879, a reaction, due to the commission of certain atrocious murders, led the legislature to submit the question to the people again, in a modified form, this time abolishing it only in case of political offences. This was carried by 200,485 votes in its favor against 181,588, in opposition; and eight cantons have re-established capital punishment, but they contain not more than one fifth of the population of the country. In not one of them, however, has there been a single execution, in consequence of the change in the law. In one or two instances capital crimes have been committed, but the sentence of death has been commuted.

> The Swiss Prison Society attaches less importance to this question than to that of the unification of the penal law, the organization of a good prison system, and especially of institutions for the education of orphans and vicious and criminal children. If, on principle, it favors the abolition of the death-penalty, it is because it believes that, this once accomplished, the attention of the legislature and of the citizens would be concentrated upon the places of detention and upon the varied causes of crime, and that preventive measures would be studied with more care; while the people, where this penalty is authorized by law, deceive themselves into supposing that it avails to avert the peril which menaces society.

LEGISLATION ON INSANITY.

The question of the precise relation of a jury to an inquisition in lunacy is somewhat complicated. In order to arrive at a correct conclusion with reference to it, it must be studied analytically.

Four questions are presupposed in every such inquest: (1) Is the alleged lunatic sane or insane? (1) Shall a conservator be appointed to take charge of his estate? (3) Is it necessary or desirable to restrain him of his liberty, by his commitment to an institution for the insane? (4) At whose cost?

If the patient has no real or personal estate, the second of

these questions does not arise ; and if the law provides, as it does in some States, that all the expense incurred in the patient's maintenance in a public institution shall be defrayed from the State treasury, this obviates the necessity of passing upon the fourth.

If, on the other hand, the patient has an estate, and the appointment of a committee to take charge of it is necessary, the proceedings for such purpose may be prescribed either by the statute of lunacy or by that of guardian and ward ; and they may be separated from those which have as their end the commitment of the patient to an institution, or they may be joined with them, and one inquest may be made to serve both purposes.

Either of these questions may be primary, and the other secondary. The court may decide first that a committee should be appointed of the lunatic's person and estate, and then authorize the said committee to take steps for his confinement in a hospital or asylum ; or it may first order him committed, and then consider the appointment of such committee.

The law, in Illinois, requires that in proceedings for the appointment of a conservator, a jury of twelve shall be impanelled ; but in proceedings for commitment to an institution, a jury of six. The two processes are entirely disjoined, and the result, as may be readily apprehended, is much confusion as to the actual status in law of a person adjudged by the county court to be insane. A lunatic, in the eye of the law, is civilly dead ; but does the mere fact of being sent to a hospital, for treatment, incapacitate him for the exercise of any civil function, such as the making of a will or the acknowledgment of a deed ? Where a conservator is appointed, this question can not arise, for the verdict of a jury impanelled under the law of guardian and ward can only be set aside by a subsequent trial and a new verdict declaring that the former lunatic has been restored to reason or to his normal condition. But the law is silent as to the mode by which a patient discharged, by order of a board of trustees, from an institution for the insane, shall set aside the presumption of legal incapacitation from entering into any civil contract arising from the verdict which authorized his commitment to such institution as a person of unsound mind. Similar uncertainty probably attaches to the legislation of other States.

We have already remarked upon the fact that in some States, where persons able to pay for board and treatment in an institution, are authorized to be committed upon the formal certificate of a physician or two physicians, without legal proceedings, but proceedings are ordered in cases where the ability to pay does not exist, the obvious end sought by such judicial investigation is merely to determine whether the patient shall be maintained and treated at public expense or not. In other words, the law seeks to know, first, whether he is indigent or a pauper, and, second, whether he has any legal settlement.

This suggests the further inquiry whether the law takes cognizance of a lunatic as a lunatic, or simply as a pauper. If the former, there would seem to be no reason for the distinction to which we here allude. But if the State recognizes no obligation to the insane as such, but confines itself to seeing that the overseers of the poor do their duty by such paupers as are at the same time lunatic or distracted, the case is wholly different. In that event, however, it is not easy to understand why the State should make such elaborate provision for the care of insane persons able to pay for care and treatment in private institutions for the insane. We should rather suppose that it would confine the expenditure of public moneys for the benefit of the insane rigorously to such persons as should be found upon investigation to be unable to defray the cost of treatment and care. Here again we perceive the inconsistency and immaturity of thought which characterizes our lunacy laws as a whole.

It would appear to us, that the law should be so framed as to bring all of these questions at once before the court having jurisdiction in lunacy, and that the judge should pass upon them all, so far as they are applicable in individual cases or under the statutes of a given State.

Whether it is essential that in every instance the decision of the questions of fact involved should be referred to a jury, depends, first, upon the prior question whether anybody disputes the facts or whether they are on all hands conceded to be facts, and, second, on the willingness or unwillingness of judges to assume the responsibilities which naturally attach to their office. It is easy to imagine that an elective judiciary may be unduly influenced by considerations of the probable effect of decisions in court upon personal popularity at an election, and that it might shirk the obloquy of a deliverance from the bench on so delicate a point as the mental condition of an alleged lunatic, if the legislature is gracious enough to relieve it from the necessity of having to express any opinion whatever upon the subject.

If the allegations set forth in the petition to the court praying for an inquest are denied or controverted, then, of course, there is an issue, and the foundation is laid for a trial : otherwise, there is no issue and there can be, properly speaking, no trial. The form of trial then becomes a mere farce, shocking to every refined sensibility of the heart. We contend that the patient, or any friend acting for him, should have the right, and in fact has it, whether the statute expressly gives it to him or not, to demand a trial, if there is any apprehension on his part that wrong is about to be attempted upon him, from interested motives or any misapprehension as to his actual state. But we think that, in that event, the jury should be a constitutional jury of twelve men from the body of the country, and not less.

If there is no issue, as in the majority of instances there is none, the question of the expediency of ordering a jury trial in every instance and making it compulsory, without reference to circumstances, is reduced to an inquiry as to what will be the probable effect upon the patient himself of such trial. Will it do him any good ? Will it, on the other hand, do him harm ?

We are aware that there are many, for the most part unfamiliar with the insane and with the character of the treatment given them in institutions, if not with the actual operation of a compulsory jury law, who defend such legislation on grounds wholly different—the effect of the repeal of such obligation not upon the insane but upon the sane. They assume that the superintendents of institutions for the insane profit, in a pecuniary sense, by the detention of wealthy patients, whose friends are anxious to be rid of them and willing to pay for the accommodation ; that numbers of persons not insane are in fact committed to lunatic asylums and held there, who ought to be discharged ; that a constant peril of incarceration in an insane asylum hangs over the heads of the sane who have their liberty ; and that the safeguards to be thrown around sane people must be of the most positive strength, in order to relieve them from this danger.

We shall consider this point in our next article.

HOMELESS AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

The following is an extract from Mr. W. P. Letchworth's paper, "Children of the State," read at the National Conference of Charities, in St. Paul.

In respect to homeless and destitute children, a difference of opinion exists as to whether they should be placed in families by adoption, indenture, or verbal agreement at once upon becoming dependent, or whether they should be permanently placed in asylums. On one hand, it is asserted that the simple routine of the asylum does not give sufficient variety of mental or manual employment for proper development, and that the children thus become institutionized, and graduate inefficient, lacking confidence in themselves to cope with the world in a struggle for a livelihood. On the other hand, it is confidently held, that, for lack of preparatory training, the children are not accepted in the most desirable

homes, and consequently too frequently drift away into the vagrant and criminal classes. Extreme views in either direction I hold to be erroneous.

It seems evident that the family is the natural place for the true development of the child, especially when it is received as a member of the family, and allowed to participate in its industrial, social, and religious life, having its faculties stimulated and its ingenuity taxed by unexpected emergencies, its sympathies awakened by home-life troubles and trials, and its affections deepened through kindness and reciprocal confidence. But homes affording these opportunities, where real safeguards exist, are not always easily found; and when found, if the little applicant is ragged and dirty, ignorant of all decorum and profane in speech, he is not readily admitted, and some preparatory care and training are necessary to make him eligible to a desirable home. The asylum should be so organized as to effect this, and then the child should be given out. Many children do not need this preparation, and can be placed in the family at once.

But the tendency of all asylums is to retain their children too long. We have examples of institutions that were established under the name of temporary homes, for the sole purpose of effecting a rapid transition from a condition of dependence to family life, which, in a few years, lapsed into inactivity in placing out, and eventually became permanent homes for children. Among the temptations to over-retention is a pride in numbers. After much drilling, the children become proficient in their exercises, and there is a reluctance to be continually breaking up the band that makes the asylum inmates, as a whole, appear attractive; and there are all the while growing personal attachments between the children and those connected with the asylum which it is hard to sunder. Thus it sometimes happens, that, when the best family homes are open and waiting, the managers resist the attempts to place out their wards. Again, when the payment by municipalities or counties for the child's maintenance is sufficient to meet the entire cost of support, or, as is sometimes the case, afford a small profit, there is a pecuniary inducement to retain children.

There is, however, a class of girls that find their way into the orphan asylums, who, while not feeble-minded, are, nevertheless, so weak in character as to require constant guidance, and it is therefore better they should be retained in an institution until they reach maturity. In some of the asylums, after passing through a course of advanced industrial training, they graduate into the world under the protecting influences of the social organizations that are fostered by sisterhoods engaged in the asylum work.

The result of retaining children so long within the institution is, that the asylums in some of the municipalities have greatly expanded, and their numbers increased to an extent that has caused complaint from taxpayers, as also from the benevolent who contribute to their support. Another serious consequence is that of over-crowding, which, in some of the larger institutions, has resulted in the prevalence of ophthalmia to an alarming extent. Thus there is danger of this otherwise excellent system being crushed by its own weight. It is but just to state, however, that, in very many of the asylums, the population changes upon an average once a year; some of the children being placed out very soon after admission. Where there are so many dependent children needing the very best care and help that can be secured for them, we must see that none are deprived of the benefits of asylum training because of over-retention. It would seem better that ten children should enjoy the privileges of the asylum for one year each, than that one child should remain during the period of ten years. Notwithstanding the dangers referred to, in my opinion, as children become dependent, the best course is to place them immediately in charge of benevolent societies organized for their care and protection, and at the same time to bring greater activity into the placing-out branch of asylum work. This activity could be promoted in localities where the institutions are largely supported by appropriations from municipalities and counties, by public authorities offering a moderate premium for every dependent child provided, within a given period, with a good home.

During recent years there has been engrafted upon the American system of caring for dependent children, the English and Scotch plan of boarding-out, as it is termed. It has been put in operation on a small scale in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and in the vicinity of New York City. When abroad a few years since, I took some pains to examine the methods recommended by Miss Joanna M. Hill, a leading spirit in the work; also those pursued in Scotland under the supervision of Mr. John Skelton, Secretary of the Poor-Law Board, who is an enthusiastic advocate of the system. I also visited a considerable number of families, both in England and Scotland, in which children were boarded, including those under the supervision of the benevolent Rev. W. P. Trevelyan, at Stony Brook, and Miss Preusser, at Windermere. The number boarded out in England, December 31, 1884, was 1,043. These are under the care of committees sanctioned by the Local Government Board. In Scotland, the work is in charge of parochial boards, and the children are frequently visited by inspectors and committees appointed for the purpose. The number of pauper children boarded in families in Scotland on the 14th of May, 1885, was 4,963, of whom 1,932 were with relatives, 3,031 with strangers. With rare exceptions, I found the children suitably placed, almost invariably in the families of poor cottagers, to whom the payment for board formed a needful part of their means of living. The cottages were generally tidily kept, and those in charge temperate and industrious. Some of the children were with widows or persons in poor health. Included in the stipulations of care was the promise that the child should spend a stated length of time in school. After reaching a self-supporting age, it is removed, or permitted to remain without payment of board. An attachment not infrequently grows up between the care-taker and the child, resulting in the acceptance of the latter alternative. The unpaid committees engaged in this work had discharged their duties in a careful and satisfactory manner. Altogether, the examination made a very favorable impression upon my mind.

Bnt the circumstances attending dependency there and here are very different. Great Britain has not the extended system for placing children in families through orphan asylums and other benevolent agencies, nor the opportunities of placing them out without remuneration for support, that exist in this country. Social distinctions and customs, and the wider difference between the poor and the well-to-do, stand in the way. English people are surprised to learn that pauper children, especially girls, who, in England, are usually trained simply for servants, are here frequently adopted or indentured into prosperous families, and have all the educational aid and social privileges of the sons and daughters of their guardians, and this, too, without pecuniary compensation. Of 1,211 children sent out in 1884 from the pauper schools of the metropolitan unions and parishes, 567 were girls, all but twenty-two of whom went into domestic service.

The pauper or dependent children of England are mainly in departments of the large workhouses (alms-houses). Of late years a commendable course has been pursued in erecting in the country groups of cottages for the accommodation of this class, thus separating them more completely from workhouse associations. The best illustration I saw of this plan was the Marston Green Cottage Homes, about six miles from Birmingham, designed to accommodate pauper children of that large manufacturing city. The group of buildings, pleasantly situated in the midst of highly improved grounds, guarded by a porter's lodge at the entrance, comprised an administration building, a school-house (also used for religious services), an infirmary, and fourteen two-story tasteful brick cottages, each accommodating about thirty children. Each of the seven cottages for girls had its house mother, and each of the remaining seven for boys its house father and mother. Nevertheless, it was still a pauper establishment under public official direction, and not controlled by organized private benevolence, as are our orphan asylums. Even in this attractive and well-conducted institution, I could not but think the children would be better off in the families of cottagers. As to those in the juvenile departments of the large workhouses, there can be no doubt but that they would be infinitely better circumstanced if boarded out. Not having an opportunity to place children in desirable families, there appears to be no better way in Great Britain than the boarding-out plan; but in this country the doors of so many sympathetic, prosperous people are open to them, it is believed that, with properly directed effort, there could be placed in families without charge, through the medium of orphan asylums and other agencies, all healthy and intelligent children coming upon the public for support, for years to come.

So long as boys and girls are boarded out by superintendents or overseers of the poor, and their maintenance paid for, they are recognized as paupers, and classed as such among their associates to the injury of their self-respect and ambition; and they are not, therefore, likely to rise as rapidly as otherwise in the social scale. But the great danger in adopting the English boarding-out system in this country, would be that it would eventually break down our whole voluntary system of receiving children into families, and prove an incalculable misfortune, resulting disadvantageously to the children, setting aside the moral benefits to the family in its benevolent sacrifice of caring for a helpless little one, and creating an enormous pecuniary burden to the public. When the pay method is in active operation, the unpaid and benevolent system will collapse; for when it becomes known in any locality that the public authorities are paying for permanent board of pauper children under private care, it is not to be expected that persons will be willing to oblige the same authorities by taking children for nothing. The benevolent feature of the work being ignored, it would become merely a business transaction. Even in cases where the family interest would be promoted by receiving a child free, pay would be demanded. Again, under our political system, there would be a constant temptation placed before public officials to do their part of the work in a way to derive some benefit from its patronage. At present, the plan of permanently boarding out has not been widely accepted in the United States, and it is to be hoped, that, notwithstanding the worthiness and good intent of those leading the movement, it will not become general.

Another danger of its adoption in this country will be seen when we reflect that, if successful, it will supersede almost entirely the necessity for orphan asylums or children's homes, and the public will lose the generous contributions now made to these charities, as well as the benefit resulting from the labors of a large force of benevolent workers who serve without any compensation whatever. I estimate that in New York State alone there are upwards of two thousand persons voluntarily engaged in child-saving work, a considerable proportion of whom devote their time in whole or in part to this laudable service.*

Despair of humanity is distrust of God.—GOETHE.

*Why do they not subscribe for the RECORD? Send on your names to the publishers, who will enter you upon our roll of honor.—ED.

PERSONAL.

The following changes in the *personnel* and location of officers of institutions for the deaf are announced (in a different form) in the October Annals. We will take pleasure in printing similar personal notices of changes in the officers of any charitable or correctional institution, if informed at the time when the change occurs.

Promotions.

HASENSTAB, Philip J., Illinois, from supervisor of boys to teacher.
WYCKOFF, G. L., Iowa, teacher to superintendent.

Transfers.

CALDWELL, William A., from Indiana to Pennsylvania.
GOODWIN, E. M., teacher, from North Carolina to Iowa.
HILL, C. H., teacher, from Maryland to North Carolina.
LEE, Miss Jennie, teacher, from Kentucky to Colorado.
RITSHER, Miss Rosetta C., from Wisconsin to Illinois.
SUTTON, Miss Georgia, from Nebraska to Minnesota.
THOMPSON, Miss Louise K., from Illinois to Colorado.

Appointments.

BALLARD, Miss Eva, teacher of articulation, South Carolina.
BERRY, Mrs. Jean Van Tassel, articulation teacher, Ohio.
CLOUD, James, H., graduate of National College, supervisor of boys, Illinois.
CONNOR, Mrs. E. F., teacher, Georgia.
CRANDALL, Miss Florence, teacher, Oregon.
CROSBY, Miss Maude, teacher, Maryland.
EURITT, Guilford D., teacher, Virginia.
FAY, Miss Adelia C. (daughter of G. O. Fay), teacher, Ohio.
FILSON, Miss Fanny, teacher of articulation, Illinois.
HAMMOND, H. C. (late superintendent of the Iowa Institution), teacher, Nebraska.
HICKS, Mrs. Caroline V., matron, North Carolina.
HOBART, Miss A. I., teacher, Wisconsin.
KERNEY, Charles, graduate of National College, principal of Evansville (Indiana) Day-School.
LAMME, Miss Fanny, teacher, Indiana.
LAYTON, George, graduate of National College, teacher, Washington territory.
MARVIN, Miss Mary, teacher, Milwaukee (Wisconsin) Day-School.
MORRISON, Miss Eleanor F., Horace Mann School, Boston.
PARKHURST, Miss I. M., teacher of articulation, Illinois.
SMITH, Miss Jessie P., teacher, Minnesota.
STEINKE, Miss Elsie (late of the School for the Blind), teacher, Wisconsin.
SWETT, Miss Lucy, teacher, New England Industrial School.
WILSON, Miss Emma, teacher, Kentucky.

Resignations.

AXTELL, Miss Abby E., Minnesota, teacher, for sake of rest.
BOWDEN, Mrs. Persis H., teacher, New England Industrial School.
ELDRIDGE, Mrs. G. N. (formerly Mrs. A. O. Whitcomb), Colorado, matron and teacher of articulation.
FISHER, James, Georgia, teacher, on account of old age.
FRANKLIN, Miss Nellie M., Minnesota, teacher, on account of trouble with her eyes.
IJAMS, Miss M. M., Maryland, teacher, on account of failing health.
LITCHFORD, Miss Sarah O., North Carolina, matron.
MAY, Miss Virginia, teacher of articulation.
PALMER, Miss Isabella, Colorado, teacher, to marry.
REED, Harry, Wisconsin, teacher.
RINTOUL, Miss Josephine F., New York, teacher, to marry.
SHAW, Miss Ellen, Horace Mann School, teacher.
WICKTON, Miss Annie J., Minnesota, teacher, to marry.
WILLIAMS, Miss Jennie, Indiana, teacher.

ITEMS FROM MINNESOTA.

A strong movement is on foot for the establishment of a reformatory for young men in Minnesota. The public prison meetings held at St. Paul and Minneapolis during the late session of the National Conference of Charities and Correction have produced a marked effect upon public opinion throughout the State. Warden Reed, of the State Prison, has, in his biennial report, recommended the establishment of a reformatory.

The new centre building for idiots and imbeciles, at Faribault, is nearing completion. It will double the capacity of the institution. The next legislature will be asked to appropriate money for the erection of a separate custodial building.

Superintendent Noyes, of the School for the Deaf, has introduced a change in the organization of the school. Two sessions a day of school are held instead of one, the pupils alternating in the school-rooms and in the shops. The new arrangement diminishes the number of teachers and increases the amount of instruction given to the children in the shops.

A detached ward for women has just been completed at the First Insane Hospital at St. Peter, increasing the total capacity of the institution to eight hundred patients. A temporary wooden barrack was erected after the fire in 1880, and has been occupied ever since by about thirty-five female patients, affording quite comfortable accommodations. It is now about to be abandoned.

The insane population of Minnesota has increased during the past eight years on an average twelve and a half per cent. each year. The following shows the increase since 1878. In 1878 there were 660; in 1880 there were 725; in 1882 there were 872; in 1884 there were 1,193; in 1886 there were 1,470. At the present rate of increase their will be 1,860 insane in 1888, and 2,350 in 1890. All of the insane in Minnesota are a State charge, there being none in county almshouses, and none, so for as known, kept secluded in private families.

The Minnesota State Prison had 356 inmates on July 31, 1884, and 358 inmates September 20, 1886—an increase of only two inmates in two years. The population of the State is estimated to have increased twenty per cent. in the same period. The criminal records of the St. Paul courts show very little increase of crime.

St. Paul, October 3d. HASTINGS H. HART.

FACT AND OPINION.

The Insane.

The Royal Commission on the Asylums for the Insane and Inebriate in Victoria, which was appointed in May, 1884, has just presented its report.

There can be little doubt that there would be more recoveries from insanity than there are in our asylums, if more work could be systematically enforced in them.—MAUDSLEY.

Dr. F. A. Manning, in New South Wales, has been appointed visitor of all lunatics who are under the care of the Primary Court. His duties are: to see each patient once in every six months and report to the court.

A training-school for nurses has been established in the Hudson River Hospital for the Insane, at Poughkeepsie; and a school for the instruction of patients, of whose curriculum calisthenic exercises are an important feature.

Puberty is the first really dangerous period in the life of both sexes, as regards insanity; but it is not nearly so dangerous as the period of adolescence, a few years afterward, when the body, as well as the organs of reproduction, are more fully developed.—Dr. CLOUSTON.

The circulation of Dr. Ireland's book, "The Blot upon the Brain," has been prohibited in Russia. This is no doubt owing to the chapter on the hereditary insanity of the Romanoffs, and the historical illustrations of the harm which insane monarchs have caused to their subjects.—*Med. Record.*

Among the acute nervous disorders likely to occur in childhood and youth as the result of mental overstrain, particularly that which prevails under a pernicious school-system, are headaches, neuralgias, general nervousness, sleeplessness, hydrocephalus, chorea, hysteria, hystero-epilepsy, insanity of pubescence, and temporary albuminuria.—Dr. C. K. MILLS.

During the past year, a new form of diversion, initiated, I believe, by Dr. Draper, of Brattleboro (Vermont), has been adopted here (at Concord, New Hampshire) with pleasure and profit to all. I refer to weekly camping-out parties of men. Daily camping parties for men are a less expensive but nevertheless a very desirable way of accomplishing the same thing.—Dr. C. P. BANCROFT.

The lunacy laws of Pennsylvania provide that "whenever any person shall be found by inquisition to be insane, the committee of the person or of the estate, and also the clerk of the court into which the inquisition has been returned, shall thereupon forthwith send to the Committee on Lunacy a statement in writing, signed by the committee of the lunatic, of the name, age, sex, and residence of the lunatic, and of the residence of the committee, and, upon any change in the residence or place of detention of the lunatic, shall forthwith notify the committee of such change."

"When one medical man is placed in charge of 300 or 400 cases of insanity, it need not be wondered at, if he should become disheartened in his attempts to master the obscure diseases affecting them, and should, in consequence, take a despondent view of brain disease in general. With such a quantity of material to exercise his professional skill upon and that material the most difficult of all that presents itself to members of the medical profession, he is exposed to the temptation of contenting himself with attending to the ordinary simple ailments of his patients, leaving the care of their mental disorders to nature and hygienic discipline. What else can be expected to result from the massing of lunatics together, in such a way as obtains in all our asylums?" So writes Dr. A. Morrison, in the *Australasian Medical Gazette.* Let those who think that they can do so give a satisfactory answer to his question. And at the same time apply his remarks to the massing of prisoners, as we do in America. The overgrowth of institutions is a crying evil under the sun, and it seems hopeless to contend against it.

The Deaf.

The pictures of thirteen deaf artists were admitted to the Paris Salon of 1886.—*Annals.*

A new paper called the *Le Couteulx Leader*, has been started in Le Couteulx St. Mary's Institution.

M. Magnat, director of the Pereire School at Paris (which has been discontinued), has established a school for the deaf at Rueil.

The manual and oral methods of teaching are hereafter to be carried on by the Pennsylvania Institution in entirely separate establishments under a single head.

Dr. E. M. Gallaudet was invited to appear before the English Special Commission on the Education of the Deaf, and sailed for England in October in order to comply with this request.

The legislature of New York has adopted an amendment to the criminal code, which makes it a misdemeanor for any person to fraudulently represent himself as deaf in order to procure assistance of any kind.

The Fourth International Convention of Instructors of the Deaf will be at Frankfort-on-the-Main, in August or September, 1887. The secretary of the Committee of Arrangements is M. A. Bélanger, Rue des Feuillantines, 9, Paris, France.

The problem of educating the deaf and dumb, so that their affliction will be less in the way of their individual progress after leaving the institutions, will never be solved until more attention is paid to their industrial education.—*Deaf-Mutes' Journal.*

According to Señor Don J. Lopez Navalon, principal of the National College for Deaf-Mutes in Madrid, the number of persons affected with deaf-mutism in Spain is more than 10,000. For these there are, besides the Madrid college, which is supported by the state, only four other institutions in the provinces, and these are all supported and managed by private enterprise.

Hospitals and the Sick.

The London Hospital Fund this year amounted to $180,000.

It is said that the first eye infirmary in the United States was founded in 1817, in New London, Connecticut, by a Dr. North.

The Presbyterian Hospital of New York is about to add another to the list of charitable dispensaries in that city, and has devoted $100,000 to the erection of a building for that purpose.

On the 30th of July, a hospital for women, officered entirely by women, was opened in Bombay by the governor, Lord Reay. The corner-stone was laid, in 1883, by his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Roper Hospital, in Charleston, South Carolina, was totally destroyed by the recent earthquake. Dr. Kinloch, writing to the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, says: "This hospital was originally built through the charity of Mr. Thomas Roper. The Medical Society of our city were, under Mr. Roper's will, the trustees of the fund. The hospital was open to persons of all colors and creeds. With the bad fortunes of the war, this fund was so reduced that it was not sufficient to carry on the charity, and as the next best thing to do, we, by permission of the courts, rented the building to the city, to be used as a hospital until our funds should reaccumulate, and to allow us to open the building upon the former plan. You will perceive, therefore, what an additional blow the fund has sustained."

The German Hospital in Constantinople was founded in consequence of the death in that city of a German who was unable to obtain proper medical assistance. It was established first in a little wooden house; but recently the German government has erected a fine building on the heights of Pera at a cost of $90,000. The hospital is four stories high, surrounded with a large garden, and is beautifully situated on an eminence from which can be seen Stamboul, the Sea of Marmora, and the coast of Asia Minor. There are six general wards and twenty private rooms, with accommodations for one hundred patients. A separate building is provided for contagious diseases. Three physicians are attached to the hospital, and during the year 1885 over six hundred patients, of fifteen different nationalities, were treated.—*Medical Record.*

It is to be hoped that there are not many city hospitals liable to as severe criticism as that given to the hospital of Memphis, Tennessee, by the *Mississippi Valley Medical Monthly*, which says: "In the wards a disgusting odor prevails; the water-closets are in an amazingly unsanitary condition; patients are put to bed in the clothes which they wear; each ward contains more than twenty-five beds, in charge of a single attendant; during the night the nurse is off duty, and the ward is left in charge of the night watchman; the only thing in the way of an operating-room is an eight-by-ten space in the large amphitheatre built by the Medical College, situated about two hundred feet from the wards, which is never comfortable and never clean; the stock of instruments and of drugs is insufficient; the diet needs special censure—milk is the only luxury, and this is issued in special cases only on the physician's order; the internes are required to provide their own furniture and bedding"; etc. The physician in charge is exonerated from personal responsibility for the existing condition of things, which is justly characterized as a disgrace to the city and a reflection on the liberality and humanity of the people of Memphis.

Prisons and Prisoners.

Trained mechanics are not often found in penitentiaries: in one State prison, but five were educated mechanics, out of a total population of 1,500 convicts.

The proposal to subject criminals condemned to death to vivisection, under the influence of anæsthetics, in the interest of medical science, if serious, will not probably be received with enthusiasm by American legislators.

To properly administer the discipline of a penitentiary requires capacity, ability, honesty, knowledge, training, and special instruction for those employed. The officers should be carefully selected for their qualifications, instructed as to their duties, and the tenure of their office should depend entirely on their developed fitness. It should be a vocation.—RICHARD VAUX.

Miscellaneous.

"Will you please give me a dime?" said a tramp. "I am blind." "You can see out of one eye as well as I can," replied the gentleman importuned; "you are only half blind." "Then give me a half-dime," said the tramp.

During the summer of 1868, the Philadelphia Country Week sent 3,600 poor persons to the country for visits of a week each, and furnished day-excursions on the rivers to about 20,000 more. The receipts for this benevolent purpose were slightly in excess of $11,000.

The board of trustees of the State institutions of Minnesota have adopted a uniform classification of expenses, which has been printed in pamphlet form and can be obtained from Mr. H. H. Hart, Secretary of the State Board of Corrections and Charities, St. Paul. It is very similar to the classification in use for ten years past in the State of Illinois, and appears to be very complete.

The corner-stone of a new infirmary for the Five Points House of Industry was recently laid, with appropriate exercises. The building will be four stories high, and will have a frontage of twenty-five feet and a depth of eighty feet, with accommodations for about eighty patients. The erection of this infirmary was rendered necessary by an act of the legislature requiring children suffering from infectious eye-disease to be isolated.—*Medical News.*

Dr. Gillett says that he saw nothing in the Alps to equal the scenery on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad; that the finest water scenery he has ever seen is Puget Sound; and that the finest river views are on the Columbia River, between the mouth of the Willamette and the Dalles—the Rhine is tame in comparison with it. He is of the opinion that the Yellowstone Park comprises more natural wonders than any other single country in the world.

An investigation of the comparative effects of lighting by gas and by electricity, in respect of increase of temperature and vitiation of the atmosphere, has been made by a physician of Munich. The *London Lancet* says: "Taking the Theatre Royal, of Munich, which is lighted by 1,400 lamps on the Edison system, he tested the two kinds of illuminants, with the following results: During a representation which lasted from 5.30 to 10.15 P.M., and was witnessed by 1,790 people, he found that while the rise in temperature in the pit was 11.1° C. with gas, it was only 7.7° C. with the electric light, and that in the upper gallery it was 10.70° with the former, and not more than 7.4° with the latter. As to the increase in the production of carbonic acid, the results were equally important. In the pit it was as 2.176 with gas to 1.121 with the electric light, and in the upper gallery as 2.855 with the first to 1.430 only with the second."

Notes by the Press.

One of the most important and valuable of the late publications started in this country is THE INTERNATIONAL RECORD OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.—*Zion's Herald.*

The INTERNATIONAL RECORD OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION is the title of a New York monthly publication. It aims to fill an unoccupied place in the world, no journal of precisely similar character and scope having ever been published. To those interested (and few are not) in the causes and remedy of social evils—poverty, ignorance, disease, vice, and crime—its columns are certain to prove attractive.—*London Lancet.*

What can be more valuable than a means of constant communication between all those engaged in charitable and reformatory work, and, to a less extent, in education? Such a helper has been provided in a monthly publication of the Messrs. Putnam's Sons, edited by Mr. F. H. Wines. Information, almost incredible in its variety and compass, is here brought together, much of it in the form of letters of suggestions from practical workers, or abstracts of reports of institutions; and such is the ability of the editor and the enthusiasm of his assistants, that instead of a dry résumé of information, it is a most entertaining magazine. We hope and trust that its usefulness may be widely extended, and that no earnest worker in the cause of humanity and Christianity will deny himself this practical help in the struggle against pauperism and crime.—*Presbyterian Observer.*